MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): The Committee having been appointed, I wish to know whether a point of order can be raised now, whether it is not too late?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The action of Mr. Asan in nominating the Deputy President and the Law Member as members of the Select Committee does not collide with the provision in the Rules and Standing Orders. After all, his nomination was a surplusage. That is all. The point raised is not, therefore, a material one.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*): In the event of the House voting against the whole motion, what will happen, Sir?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: When such a difficulty arises, I shall give a ruling. Now, the House has chosen to accept it.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): The motion has not yet been carried, Sir; I have some amendments to make to it.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I think, in the light of the Rules, Mr. Asan may modify his motion suitably.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I move that the Amendments to the Standing Orders may be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following gentlemen, in addition to the Deputy President and the Law Member:—

Messrs. V. T. Chacko,
" V. Ramakrishna Panickar,
" T. P. Ramasubba Aiyar,
" Changanachery K. Parameswaran Pillai,
" Kainikkara M. Padmanabha Pillai,
" V. K. Velappan Nair,
" K. A. Narayana Pillai,
" Pacode A. Narayana Pillai, and myself.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): I second it.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): I move that the names of Dr. Kunjan Pillai, Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai and Mr. N. K. Krishna Pillai may be added.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): I second it.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I accept the amendment, Sir.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*): The time for reporting, Sir?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Four months as in the previous Bills.

The motion was put to vote and carried.

RESOLUTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANAHBA MENON (*Shertala I*): Sir, I move "*That this Assembly recommends to Government that early steps be taken to give additional facilities in the matter of shipping and freightage so Tranancore merchants dealing in cocoanut products to enable them to compete successfully with foreign competitors.*"

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In moving this resolution for the acceptance of the House, I may be permitted to state generally certain facts in connection with the abnormal fall in the price of cocoanut products. It is a question intimately affecting us. In fact, to the Travancorean, no other question is more important now than the abnormal fall in the price of cocoanut products. The question is so enormous and is of such vast importance that it is no exaggeration to state that the major portion of our State revenue is entirely dependent, in one form or another, on the income derived from cocoanut products. Viewing the question from the standpoint of the ordinary Travancorean, it is the mainstay of the people. If this abnormal fall is to continue as a permanent feature, no Travancorean can look at the future of Travancore without a shudder. The average Travancorean thinks, and thinks rightly, that the vastness and seriousness and importance of this great question is not fully realised by the Government and that the Government are not as prompt in this matter as the people would wish. Just to impress upon the House the vastness of our export trade in cocoanut products, I crave the indulgence of the House to quote a few figures :—

		Rs.
The total value of copra exported in 1107	...	41,77,461
,, cocoanut husk	...	10,84,022
,, coir	...	68,31,445
,, cocoanut oil	...	54,35,493

On an average, 30 to 35 crores of cocoanuts go out of the country every year. One candy of cocoanut oil used to fetch, during the boom, nearly Rs. 200. Now, it has come down to Rs. 75. On a rough estimate, about 6,00,000 acres of land are under cocoanut cultivation in Travancore, 5,57,000 acres to be more exact. There are 21 oil-mills in the State, with a total investment of about Rs. 30,00,000, 11 mills in Alleppey, 6 in Shertala, 3 in Quilon and 1 in Trivandrum.

Analysing the situation, what do we find? What are the forces that have brought about this abnormal fall in the price of cocoanut products? What are the causes over which we have control? Is there over-production or keen competition? Are we incapable of retaining our original markets in British India and elsewhere? Has the tariff question any-share in the fall of the prices of cocoanut products? Is this fall nothing more than one aspect of the general fall in the price of all goods? My submission to this House is that each one of these factors has contributed its own quota.

I shall first deal with the question of over-production. The total area under cocoanut cultivation, in the whole of India, is nearly 1,35,000 (13 1/2 lakhs) acres. The total area of cocoanut cultivation in Travancore, as I have already stated, comes to nearly 6 lakhs of acres of land. Experts say that there is in fact no over production in India, that Malabar, which is the main source of cocoanut supply, is not at present in a position to supply all the demands of the British Indian markets and they again say that the average yield per year per tree in Travancore is less than 20 nuts; that the yield must be raised to at least 25 or 30 nuts per

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[Mr. Edavanatt S. Padmanabha Menon.]

year'; that is 250 nuts at least must be increased in an acre of cocoanut cultivation to meet the entire demand of the British Indian markets. So, we see that the real cause is not over-production so far as Travancore, Cochin and Malabar are concerned. We know that, in recent years, Ceylon, Federated Malaya States and other places have taken to intensive cultivation of cocoanut trees. The extent of Ceylon is approximately 25,000 sq. miles with a population of nearly 41 lakhs. Out of the total area of Ceylon, 11 lakhs of acres of land are under intensive and scientific cultivation of cocoanut trees. It might be news to the members of the House that there is practically no land tax in Ceylon. Here we have land tax, customs, export duties and again other indirect taxes on the produce of the cocoanut tree. In Ceylon there is no land tax and the cocoanuts are not actually plucked from the trees, but they fall after becoming maturely ripe. So, the quality will be also superior to our produce. In 1931 Ceylon exported to India nearly 1,05,620 cwts. of cocoanut oil, whereas in 1932 we see that the figure is more than double. Up to 1931 only a small quantity of copra was sent to India from Ceylon, whereas in 1932 we see nearly 41,000 tons of copra being imported to India from Ceylon. There is also a well-organised and efficient Chamber of Commerce functioning in Ceylon. From these, the House will realise that, unless we make a supreme effort, Ceylon competition will kill our industry. Ceylon has already captured the European market, and is now rapidly displacing us so far as the British Indian market is concerned. We must take into consideration this significant fact also, that 65 per cent of the copra produced in Ceylon is being crushed into oil in Ceylon itself and that only 35 per cent. is exported from Ceylon to outside countries as copra. Here the question of tariff duty comes in. The House is well aware of the tariff question, the Ottawa Conference and the agreement regarding preferential treatment of Empire goods, that I need refer only in general terms to them.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I want to point out to you, Mr. Padmanabha Menon, that out of the 20 minutes you have already taken 10 minutes.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Because of the representations and agreement arrived at between the representatives of Ceylon and the Government of India, they have already reduced a five per cent. duty from the existing duty of 30 per cent. on cocoanut produce imported into India from Ceylon. But substantially the Ceylon people get a reduction of 10 per cent. For, many of the members know that for tariff valuation, an artificial valuation is given to the articles that are imported and exported. So they get a substantial reduction of 10 per cent. and there is a strong agitation on the part of the Ceylon public and their Government to do away with the whole duty, so that they can have a free importation of their goods into India, on the understanding that they will purchase large quantities of North Indian cotton

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in exchange. This mutual and amicable agreement that might be arrived at between the Ceylon Government and the British Indian Government will hit us hard and I do not know where the people of Travancore will be, unless we take up seriously this question and agitate in the Press and on the platform, and impress on the Imperial Government the seriousness of the problem. As the hands of the Government of India are already full with other matters, if this local question, is to assume corresponding importance in the eyes of the Government of India, we should move vigorously in the matter and substantial and sincere efforts of our Government are necessary.

Then I go to the next question whether we are in a position to retain the British Indian market. Here the duty that has been imposed by our own Government on the export of cocoanut produce from Travancore comes in. Our Government derives annually nearly Rs. 15 lakhs on this. On one candy of copra the tax is Rs. 4-12 as., on one candy of cocoanut oil it is Rs. 2-9 as. and on one candy of punnac it is Re. 1-8 as. The total estimated income per year is approximately nearly Rs. 15 lakhs. Our Government must seriously consider whether it is not advisable in the wider interests of the peasantry of Travancore on whom the future of this country depends to make a substantial reduction of export duty and give some relief to the people. In Bengal nearly three hundred soap and hair oil factories are working and the major portion of the cocoanut oil required in Bengal was being supplied by Travancore. But in Bengal we are now being rapidly displaced. Here I come mainly to the proposition just before the House that, because of the lack of facilities, Travancore merchants are seriously handicapped. The Travancore merchants are seriously handicapped in selling their goods to advantage in the foreign markets and they find it increasingly difficult to retain the foreign markets. Ceylon copra reaches Madras within twenty-four hours, from Ceylon, I am told, whereas exports from Alleppey take nine to ten days to reach Madras and Rs. 8 or Rs. 9 is insisted as freight charges by the South Indian Railway Company. Because of the efficient organization of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce and because of the combined efforts of the Ceylon Government and of their merchants, they manage to deliver their copra at a nominal freight charge to Alleppey, Cochin, Karachi, Bombay and Madras. There is very real difficulty experienced by the merchants in Alleppey because of the convention rate that is prevailing as regards freight charges. Though there is the usual convention rate prevailing, there are very many factors working to increase freight charges in practice.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): Is there any difference in freight from Colombo to Bombay and also from Alleppey to Bombay on copra or any other cocoanut produce?

EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertalla I*): Yes, there is a difference of Rs. 2 in the freightage from Alleppey to Bombay. My submission is that the question is a very serious one. We are hedged in with difficulties on all sides. There is the foreign competition.

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MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): എനിക്ക് ഒരുപോയിന്റ് ഓഫ് ഓർഡർ ഉണ്ട്. അതായത് സ്റ്റാൻറിംഗ് ഓർഡർ പാർട്ട് ഫർവു, സബ് ക്ലാസ് ൽ അനുസരിച്ച് ഒരു മോഷൻ ഒരാൾ കൊണ്ടുവരുകയും അതിനെ ഒരാൾ സെക്കൻറ് ചെയ്യുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു മുമ്പായിട്ട് ചോദ്യം ചോദിക്കാൻ മറ്റു മെമ്പർമാർക്ക് അവകാശമില്ലെന്നുള്ളതാണ്.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Mr. Padmanabha Menon, you may sit down for a minute. May I know what is the rule you refer to, Mr. Velayudhan Pillai?

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): Paragraph 148, sub-clause (3) at page 45.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : There the word "question" means putting a matter to the vote of the House. Whenever a member is in possession of the House, it is open to any member, if he wants an answer to a question which is relevant to the issue, to put that question.

Having risen now to give a ruling on this point of order—and I do not want to get up again frequently, if it could be avoided—I may also mention that Mr. Padmanabha menon has been speaking for more than 15 minutes and the resolution,—I am merely saying this to facilitate proper discussion—is

> "This Assembly recommends to Government that early steps be taken to give additional facilities in the matter of shipping and freightage".

I am merely pointing this out for the attention of the mover.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANADHA MENON (*Shertala I*): I have no time to do justice to the subject as the seriousness and the importance of the question demands. I will content myself with just suggesting the remedies.

There are no mills in Bengal for crushing copra into cocoanut oil. Bengal buys largely from us. But the quality of the cocoanut oil we export has suffered immensely and for this the people are to blame. In our anxiety to sell copra, because of our dire needs, at an early stage, the copra is not properly dried. Artificial means are resorted to for the purpose of drying copra so that, though the outside looks dry, the inside is not dried and remains green.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I am disposed to say that you may not develop that point because it has very little to do with shipping and freightage.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): We have to retain our market. There is very much demand for white copra, mostly from Bombay and other places and very many take it as a delicacy and many again use it for medicinal purposes, especially women, during the advanced stage of pregnancy and immediately after confinement.

I want to press on the attention of the House that the Government, having regard to the vastness of the problem, must see that larger quantities are exported from Travancore as white copra. If the Mysore

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Government can capture the European market by persistent propaganda and active work for their sandal soap and oils, why not, by spendinga few lakhs of rupees, the Travancore Government persistently try and capture foreign markets for our white copra? So my remedies are (1) appointment of trade agents, (2) propaganda work by Government to find out new markets, (3) careful arrangements to retain the existing market, (4) inducing Government of India to increase protective tariff to keep off foreign competition, (5) doing away partially at least with the internal duty imposed by our Government on export of cocoanut produce, and (6) giving additional facilities to Travancore merchants who are engaged in the arduous and difficult task of export. In these days of keen competition, we must be up and be doing, if we want to survive. There is, I understand, a persistent demand on the part of mill-owners to purchase more and more copra from Ceylon. Thereby indigenous industry suffers materially.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether all the copra produced in Travancore is crushed in the mills of Alleppey?

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): All the copra is crushed in the State. Our mills want more. I have figures to show that thousands of candies of copra are imported to the State. The Tata Oil Mills Company at Eranakulam are persistently clamouring that they are handicapped for want of more copra to be crushed. On an average, they crush 2,000 candies of copra in 24 hours. Most of the copra crushed there is the imported variety. If the Alleppey mill-owners go in for foreign copra, I do not know where our copra will find a market. This is a very serious question that should engage the attention of Government.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member whether it is possible to stop foreign competition?

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): It is not entirely within the power of this State. The Government of India have to be moved to raise the tariff of copra. Our Government also can do a great deal in this direction.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You need not deal with that question. Your resolution relates only to shipping and freightage.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): That is an important information one requires from Mr. Menon, *i. e.*, how foreign competition could be stopped.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Even in the light of Mr. S. J. Nair's explanation, I consider that the question need not be answered.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): I shall now come to two or three points, in connection with the resolution. The neglect and the indifference on the part of the Travancore Government in improving the Alleppey Port has caused great inconvenience to the merchants at Alleppey. There is a lot of work left unattended in Alleppey pier. It must be made a decent up-to-date port. I do not know what is the meaning of this ostrich-like policy on the part of Government when the whole country is adversely affected.

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DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Your time is up.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): So, I commend this resolution for the acceptance of the House.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution brought forward by Mr. Padmanabha Menon with an able speech to support his resolution. I have to add many things in regard to his resolution. I also think that sufficient importance has never been given to cocoanut produce in Travancore, in spite of the fact that throughout the world there is no country which has a greater proportion of land being utilised for the cocoanut cultivation. Yet Travancore cocoanut producers are being more and more heavily taxed than being helped by the departments concerned. Perhaps, because of the high price of cocoanuts in former times, they were not alive to the difficulties they were labouring under. But for the last few years, the price of cocoanut has been going down more and more, so much so that the people have lost all faith in cocoanut cultivation and as a result they have abandoned cocoanut cultivation. I do not know what will be the fate of Travancore a few years afterwards.

About the facilities that are to be given to the cocoanut producers in shipping, I think the question of export also comes in. I am afraid the President has given a ruling that that point cannot be developed, because strictly under the wording of the resolution that does not come in. But I request the indulgence of the President, to permit me to say a few words about it.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I may explain. The ruling covers certain matters and prohibits a detailed examination of questions not intimately connected with shipping and freightage. If you have got anything to say in relation to that, you certainly are at liberty to speak.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): One of the difficulties that is being experienced by people who are to export cocoanut from Travancore to outside is the difficulty with regard to export duty. Now in Ceylon, which has a few lakhs of acres of land under cocoanut cultivation, the Ceylon Government have removed export duty on cocoanut altogether. The Travancore Government have been keeping that export duty. That affects the cocoanut producers in two ways. Firstly, they are not getting the price; and secondly, they are being delayed on the way by customs officers. The people who want to purchase Travancore copra outside the State also find it difficult, because of the difficulties at the customs houses. Therefore removing export duty is a way to help local cocoanut producers.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): May I know whether export duty affects producers or price of cocoanut?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): It affects the price of cocoanut.

Again the tariff rate of copra has been artificially inflated, for the tariff rate of copra is Rs. 96 or so. Really cocoanut producers get only Rs. 45 for one candy of copra at present. But they are paying export duty for double the amount of the price.

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Then with regard to freight. From Ceylon to Bombay, the distance is much greater than from Alleppey to Bombay. But freight is almost the same from Ceylon to Bombay and from Alleppey to Bombay. This the Ceylon copra producers got through the recommendation of the Government and the interference of the Chamber of Commerce. But that is not the case with regard to the Travancore copra owners. They are helpless in the matter. Recently an expert of the British Government has been touring throughout Travancore to see to the facilities and difficulties of cocoanut producers in Travancore. When the people interviewed that gentleman and requested his help for keeping up the import duty in British India, the difficulty brought forward by that gentleman was—

DEPUTY PRESIDENT. Do you make yourself responsible for that statement?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): Yes. He said, 'When your Government themselves are not prepared to remove the export duty, do you think the British Indian people are to pay more price for your copra and help the Travancore producers? You cannot expect that". And he compared the action of the Ceylon Government also in the matter. Therefore we think it is only right to request our Government to remove export duty on copra altogether, at least till the price of copra becomes higher than what it is now.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Your time is up.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Sir, speaking on this resolution, as one representing the commercial constituency, I submit there is some difficulty in understanding what exactly are the facilities to be given in these instances. So far as freightage is concerned, as regards railway freight, the question came up recently on a deputation from the Government of Ceylon which waited upon the Government of India; and the Railway Board stated specifically that there cannot be any more reduction in the railway freight. The last reduction has been made. Any further reduction in freight would mean a considerable deficit in the Railway Budget. Therefore, so far as railway freightage is concerned, any facilities in the matter seem to be remote.

As regards shipping, we are no doubt a maritime country, but shipping is in the hands of other agencies, and so far as British shipping is concerned, that industry itself is in a bad way. The control of shipping is not in the hands of our Government and so no facilities could be expected there. But unless some facilities are obtained by our merchants, not merely for cocoanut produce, but for other produce as well, both in the matter of shipping as well as freight, things would become very worse. Therefore it is the duty of Government to devise measures by which these facilities will have to be obtained. Therefore I heartily support the resolution moved by Mr. Menon.

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MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Sir, the resolution proposed by Mr. Padmanabha Menon is to recommend to Government that early steps be taken to give additional facilities in the matter of shipping and freightage to Travancore merchants dealing in cocoanut produce, to enable them to compete successfully with foreign competitors. Mr. Menon began by a graphic description of the difficulties facing the cultivators of cocoanut tree at present in Travancore. I fully agree with him on that point, though most of what he said had no direct bearing upon his resolution.

It has been said that the cause of the fall in prices is not over-production. But I may inform the House that the fall in price is due to over-production, though not over-production in Travancore but over-production of cocoanut products in the whole world. Travancore cannot have any market for herself and the whole world is open to the world products of the cocoanut tree. When we come to the question of over-production, we must see whether there is over-production of this commodity in the whole world. As far as I am able to say, the present fall is due mainly to over-production. There has been considerable development in the cultivation of the cocoanut tree in Ceylon, Malaya States, Philippines and other countries.

The fundamental cause of the fall in prices is mainly, if not wholly, due to over-production.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): May I know from the member how the Ceylon copra owners are able to compete successfully with Travancore copra owners?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I may say that the resolution has nothing to do with the competition of the Ceylon copra owner or the Travancore copra owner.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: It is open for the member to ask that question.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): What I want to know is how the Ceylon copra owners are able to compete with the Travancore copra owners in point of price.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You mean compete *favourably*?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): Yes, the Ceylon copra owners are able to sell their copra cheaper. What is the reason for that?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): There is no question of the producers of the copra of one country competing with the producers of the copra of another country. We are all throwing our products into the world market. We may say that the Travancore copra owners are competing with the copra owners of Ceylon or that the Ceylon copra owners are competing with the Travancore copra owners.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: What Mr. M. N. Nair wants is to know how the Ceylon copra owners are able to compete more favourably with the Travancore copra owners in India?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): There is no question of favourable competiton at all.

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MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): May I know how the Ceylon producer is able to compete successfully in the Indian market even after the payment of 20 per cent. as import duty?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): As I see it, there is no question of successful competition or anything of that sort. The Ceylon producer places his copra in the Indian market. The Travancore producer also markets his produce in India. The Ceylon producer gets for his copra what the Travancore producer gets, *Minus* the import duty and transport charges. That is all what happens.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: So that the Ceylon merchant gets less for his cocoanut?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Less than what?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Less than what the Travancore producer gets.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) Has the price of Ceylon copra gone down?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): Does the member know that there is under-production during the period 1931 to 1932 in various other countries?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Now Mr. Madhavan is dealing with other points. I shall allow you to put that question when he comes to the question of production. Now you may put any questions on the matter which he is dealing with.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Does the member know that there has been no under-production?

MR. C. O. MADAHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): There has been no under-production. We have also developed the area under cocoanut cultivation. But the yield may not be the same every year. It may vary according to seasonal conditions.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): May I know from the member whether it is a fact that Ceylon has lost many of her big foreign markets?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes, Ceylon is not able to send her cocoanut products to European countries as she used to do. Cocoanut oil is being replaced by other oils.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): May I know from the member whether Ceylon is selling her products at a loss in the Indian market?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes, she is selling in the Indian markets for what she can get.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): What is the tariff value imposed by the Government on cocoanut?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The member himself has said that it is Rs. 48 for 1,000 cocoanuts.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): I want to know whether the official member agrees with me. May I know the market price of cocoanut oil per candy?

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MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): It is much less, about half.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): May I know the reason for keeping this artificial inflation in the tariff value?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The tariff remains what it was two years ago. We have not reduced the tariff value.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*) May I know why this inflation of tariff is maintained?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): There is no question of inflation. It is only a little higher.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I may be permitted to say that we are using technical terms like inflation and dumping. If it is the meaning of ordinary English words, I think everybody can understand it. But when technical expressions are used some working idea may be given and thus these difficulties may be prevented.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Sir, the tariff value has not been unduly raised.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether the tariff value has been proportionately reduced to the fall in the price of cocoanut?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The tariff value cannot be revised as frequently as the fluctuations in the market prices.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): My question is whether the reduction in the tariff value is in proportion to the fall in the price of cocoanut. Has it approximated to the existing value.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): It is not so. The Government noticed a fall in the price of cocoanut in the year 1106 and they reduced the tariff value accordingly.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether that reduction is proportionate to the reduction in the value of copra?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): So far as copra is concerned, there is some difference. The tariff value of copra is always kept a little higher than its market value for affording protection to the mill-owners. It has always been the policy of the Government to keep the tariff value of copra a little higher than that of oil.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*): May I know whether the time has come for Government to consider the question of reducing the tariff value on copra, in view of the fact that the tariff value on copra has come near double its price?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Government have been watching the course of the fall in the price of cocoanut; and if the same rate continues to prevail, they will surely consider the question of revising the tariff value.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Is there not already a great and disproportionate difference between the duty on copra and that on oil?

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DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I do not allow that question.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Is there not a disproportionate difference between the tariff imposed on copra and cocoanut oil?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes, there is.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): May I know why this difference is kept up?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Simply to help the mill-owners.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): May I know why this mill industry should be shown such a consideration? Is it such an infant industry that it should be artificially helped by Government?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): It is not a question of infant industry. It is not in that light that the Travancore mill-owners are given some concessions. They are subject to certain disadvantages when compared with those of Cochin. They will not be able to carry on their business successfully, if the same duty is imposed on copra and oil.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Will that not adversely affect the cocoanut cultivation?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes, to some extent. Perhaps it will be the Government that will be losing more than the producers.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): May I know who form the greater number, the agriculturists or the mill owners?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The member himself knows it.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: What the member wants to know is whether it is a fiscal duty or a protective duty?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): It is meant to serve both the purposes. It is primarily a fiscal duty. So far as the distinction between cocoanut and cocoanut oil is concerned, it may be said that it is meant for protective purposes.

But Mr. Menon's resolution as it stands is unnecessary, though not wholly irrelevant.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You should not use the word "irrelevant." You should withdraw that word.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Then I do not say that. What the resolution urges is that Government should give additional facilities in the matter of shipping to the merchants. So far as that is concerned, I may say that Travancore Government is quite helpless. Some years back, the Government had to address the Steamship Companies on behalf of Travancore merchants engaged in the import of rice or paddy from Burma. The steamer freight on paddy from Burma

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[Mr. C. O. Madhavan.]

to Alleppey is higher than that to Cochin, though the distance to Alleppey is shorter. Government, on behalf of the Travancore importers, wrote to the Shipping Company for the reduction of the freight. But the Company wrote in reply that they could not reduce it to the level of Cochin, because there they had got better landing and shipping facilities. I quote this only as an instance to show the limit of our power in the matter of the reduction of freight. As matters stand at present, it is not possible for the Government to do anything in a matter of this kind. Of course, when we have a Shipping Company of our own, it may then be possible. So far as other facilities are concerned, Mr. Menon referred to the difficulties of merchants due to the silting up of the shipping harbour. That question was fully discussed in connection with interpellation No. 83 asked this morning in this House. The Secretary to Government, in answering the interpellation, has explained what the Government have done, what they are doing and what they propose to do to tackle that difficulty.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: It is nearly 1.15, the usual time to rise for lunch. I want to annouce that the Dewan will be presiding over the House this afternoon.

In this connection, you will permit me to express my deep sense of thankfulness for the manner in which you have helped to conduct the deliberations of the House and the consideration you have shown while I was presiding.

The House will now adjourn to meet again at 2 P. M.

The House rose for lunch at 1.15 P. M.

The Assembly met again after lunch at 2.2 P. M., the President presiding.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Sir, I had almost finished my reply on the first resolution in the agenda. The mover wanted the Government to afford better facilities, to the merchants of Travancore, in the matter of shipping and freightage. So far as freightage is concerned, it rests entirely with the Shipping Companies; and Government now find that they cannot effectively interfere and get concessional rates for our merchants.

In regard to shipping, absolutely no hardship is being felt by our merchants in shipping our products for the ports of Bombay, Karachi and Calcutta. The freight from Alleppey to those ports is the same as from Cochin. Travancore merchants have no cause for complaint at all in that direction. If the merchants desire anything more, I may inform the House that it is not within the power of Government to give any more help in the direction now asked for.

So far as better shipping and landing facilities at Alleppey are concerned, Government are doing everything possible. The silt is being dredged away. The Government are getting down an expert for consultation and advice. What the Government are doing in this matter has been explained in answer to an interpellation this morning. I may assure the House that everything possible will be done. Government

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are fully alive to their responsibility in that direction. I hope Mr. Padmanabha Menon will be satisfied with the assurance I have given on behalf of Government and will not press his resolution.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : Sir, I wish to offer a few remarks on the resolution before the House.

The resolution only prays for *additional* facilities in the matter of shipping and freightage. Sir, facilities for shipping and freightage are very intimately connected with the development of trade and commerce of a country. So far as Travancore is concerned, it claims to be one of the most important of the maritime States of India. We have at least four ports which are used year in and year out. Alleppey has various advantages on account of its position. The main advantage there is that no large investment is needed for the development of the port. Secondly, it serves a very rich hinterland. Of late, there has been a phenomenal increase in shippsng there ; but, on account of the more ambitious Cochin Harbour Scheme, Government have not been paying much attention even to the efficient maintenance of the Travancore ports as they ought to.

There is one specific point which I wish to refer to in this connection. The Excise Commissioner in his reply said that Government cannot do much by way of interfering in the matter of reducing freightage for the Travancore merchants, as it was not entirely in our control. I crave the indulgence of the House when I quote from an article on shipping, especially of cocoanut products, written by the late Dewan Mr. M. E. Watts, where he says that much can be done for the improvement of shipping facilities for our merchants. I think it is entitled to great weight at the hands of the Government and of this House. He says—

> "The Travancore Ports cannot aspire to rank in the first class or as ports of final destination, but they can, without difficulty, be developed into useful ports of call and be made even more profitable than they are at present.

The fact remains that these ports can be made more profitable, and more facilities for shipping can be afforded. That is a point that cannot be denied. I think, in admitting that fact, Government ought to do all they can for the products passing through the Alleppey Port. It has been stated that the Government were already considering the question of solving the difficulties created by sand-banks in Alleppey and that they were inviting experts to advise them on the improvement of the pier. Sir, trade is a very delicate business ; and Government should not allow such questions to be tarried much. Any moment, very easily, ocean-going steamers might turn their courses away from Alleppy, especially in view of the fact that they have close at hand a first class harbour in Cochin. Delay is therefore very dangerous in this matter. Government must, therefore, expedite the improvement of the Alleppey Port. The expedition with which we improve our port is therefore a matter of high concern to us, because trade, if once diverted cannot possibly be attracted again easily.

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[Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

There is also another matter which I wish to refer to. Though, strictly speaking, it does not come under the resolution, both the mover and the official member referred to it. The export of copra and the copra industry suffer a great deal on account of the fact that there is no expert advice on the matter and sufficient and prompt and enlightened attention is not being bestowed on the fixing of tariff values on copra. Even now when as a matter of fact the market price of copra has gone down considerably, the tariff value has not been proportionately reduced. There is absolutely no relation between the actual market value of copra and the value adopted by the Government for fixing the tariff value. This state of affairs has to be remedied. Unless that is done, our purchasers will be at a very great disadvantage. And no one can now say what would be the position of Travancore if the cocoanut industry ceases to be a profitable industry. This is a very serious matter in which Government have to act very promptly, with all the energy that they can command.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Sir, I regret to state that the usual amount of sympathy I expected from the official quarters is not forthcoming. It is true that much cannot be done by the Travancore Darbar in the matter of shipping. But, I still maintain that our Government can correspond with Shipping Companies and attract to our port big ocean-going steamers, if we provide better facilities for them in our port and also establish up-to-date warehouses and go-downs in our ports. Alleppey must have a better pier. The present one is fast becoming useless; and if we do not improve it and maintain it properly, with the development of the Cochin Harbour, our only port, Alleppey, is sure to lose its importance. In answer to an interpellation, it was stated that Government think of appointing an expert to investigate the Alleppey pier problem. Sir, the matter is very important and urgent and Government ought not to take months and years over this matter. In this connection, I want to draw the attention of Government to the immediate necessity of granting at least partial remission, on equitable grounds, I mean in the export duty on cocoanut products imposed by our Government. In view of the assurance given by the Excise Commissioner that everything possible in the circumstances will be done immediately and in the light of the fact that the Government realises the importance of the resolution, I do not wish to press the resolution to a division.

The resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Padmanabha Menon, you may move the second resolution standing in your name.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Sir, I wish to move the following resolution—

"*This Assembly recommends to Government that the G. O. giving preference to Vernacular School teachers who have acted during the period 1100 to 1103 in the matter of appointments be cancelled.*"

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Sir, this is a Government Order which has been the causse ofmuch heart-burning in this country. I, for one, fail to understandd n what principles of equity, fair play or justice, this Government order is based. In answer to interpellations, the Director of Public Instruction, during the last session of the Assembly, stated that more than 1,200 persons are included in this waiting list of teachers who have acted between 1100 and 1103, that for the last six years all available vacancies have been reserved for them—earmarked for them—and in spite of that, during the last six years only 600 teachers have been provided for. Another 600 still remain in this charmed list. At the same time, there are more than 200 teachers who have acted prior to 1100, persons whose claims ought to be recognised, who are entitled to greater claim and more preferential treatment. And pray what is the particular sanctity for this period? I fail to understand what sanctity is attached to this period of 1100 to 1103. This House will be failing in its duty if we are going to perpetuate this injustice. I have no hesitation in characterising it as a G. O. disfiguring the portfolio of the Director of Public Instruction and I must implore the assistance of this side of the House to do away with this unjust order. There should be some intelligent principles that ought to be kept consistently in view regarding appointments in public service.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): Is it the member's wish that those who acted before 1100 must also be included in the waiting list?

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): I thank the member for reminding me of it. There are two courses open to the Director of Public Instruction. He must either do away with this waiting list altogether and make future appointments on the two well-recognised conditions of public service, namely qualifications and efficiency or enlarge this charmed list, so that it might bring within its fold all those who have acted prior to 1100 and subsequent to 1103, all those who rightly look upon this House and the Government authorities in charge of the department to recognise their claim.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): What about those who have acted after 1103 and before 1104? Does the member know that there is a class of persons who have acted during this period and are now without employment?

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Yes. That necessarily implies one of the two courses I have suggested. Yes, take away this artificial barrier kept up between 1100 and 1103, so that all acting men can be placed on an equal footing. Bring together all persons who have acted in a list and give them preference; apply the same ordinary rules that are obtained in other departments regarding appointment of acting men. Or do away with all acting men. Let us say good-bye to all acting persons. Personally I have no grievance if that is done. Let the sole test of future appointments in the Education Department be the test of efficiency and higher qualifications. There should be some intelligent principle, some principle that is consistent with fair play and justice.

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): What is the principle underlying the suggestion that acting claims should be ignored?

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): I am suggesting two courses and it is perfectly open to this House to accept either of the two. The only thing I insist on, as per this resolution, is that this kind of G. O. giving undue preference to the persons who have acted during the period 1100 to 1103, disregarding prior and subsequent claims, is not based on an intelligent principle, that it is not equitable, that it is doing great injustice to some other persons whose claim ought to weigh more with the department under normal and ordinary circumstances and that this kind of G. O. at any rate cannot be allowed to remain in force any longer.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Will it not be likely that by the time we search after these people some of them might have forgotten even the alphabet?

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): I refuse to take this as a settled fact, Sir. An injustice, even though it is perpetrated half a dozen years ago or a decade ago, is still an injustice and it ought to be removed at the earliest possible opportunity by this House. If any member of this House can satisfy me that, by revoking this G. O., we will be doing great injustice, I am prepared to withdraw this resolution, but not otherwise.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): If you bring these teachers who have been out of touch with teaching work for very many years, will you not be perpetrating an injustice to the pupils?

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): The question does not seem to arise because of this—

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Is it in the interest of the pupils?

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): I am coming to that. We have waited for half a dozen years to exhaust half the number in this list and we will have to wait perhaps another half a dozen years or perhaps a decade, to get the remaining six hundred absorbed. What about the six hundred who have been appointed during these years? Were they all these years in intimate touch with teaching? So, the question moves in a vicious circle, Sir. The only question we have to consider is whether this G. O., is based on an intelligent principle, whether by perpetuating this G. O. we are having fair play, whether it is not time enough to say good-bye to this vexed G. O. that has created so much strong feeling in this country and whether, after all, this favoured, charmed list should be perpetuated for another six or ten years to come. I seriously and sincerely ask—will it be to the fair name of the department to perpetuate it? Is it not a standing sore and heart-burn to many? If this is applauded and allowed to remain, what guarantee is there that a time might not come

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in the future when some other charmed list be brought into existence? This order has already done much mischief and it promises to do more in future. I do not think any elaborate speech is necessary for recommending this resolution to the acceptance of the House.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): I second it.

MR. T. T. KEAVAN SASTRI (*Nominated*): ഫ ഫ ൦ ൦-മുതൽ ഫ ഫ ൦ ൯-വരെ പകരംനോക്കിയിട്ടുള്ള അധ്യാപകന്മാരെ നിയമിച്ചതിനുശേഷംമാത്രമേ പുതിയ അധ്യാപകന്മാരെ നിയമിക്കാൻ പാടുള്ളു എന്നുള്ള ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ആർഡർനിമിത്തം മലയാളഭാഷാപരീക്ഷാബിരുദധാരികളിൽ പലരും അത്യധികമായ സങ്കടം അനുഭവിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. അധ്യക്ഷതരെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് പറയുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഒരു കുറഞ്ഞകാലത്തിനിപ്പുറമാണ് അവക്ക് സ്കൂൾപ്രവേശനവും സാമാന്യവിദ്യാഭ്യാസസൌകര്യങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടായി പരീക്ഷാവിജയികളായിത്തീരാൻ സംഗതിയായിട്ടുള്ളത്. പ്രസ്തുത ആർഡർനിമിത്തം ഒരു നിശ്ചിതകാലത്തിനിടക്ക് പരീക്ഷാവിജയികളായി പ്രവേശനം സിദ്ധിക്കാതുള്ളവക്ക് ഉദ്യോഗം ലഭിക്കുകയില്ല എന്നു വരുന്നത് വളരെ സങ്കടകരവും ന്യായരഹിതവുമാണ്. ഫ ഫ ൦ ൯-നുശേഷവും അതിനു മുമ്പായും അധ്യക്ഷതവർഗ്ഗത്തിൽപെട്ട അനേകം ആളുകൾ മലയാളം ഏഴാംക്ലാസ് പരീക്ഷാവിജയികളായും മുഖ്യപരീക്ഷാവിജയികളായും അനേകംഉദ്യോഗാർത്ഥികൾ ഉണ്ട്. ഇവരിൽ ഉൾപ്പെട്ട പലരും ഉദ്യോഗത്തിനുവേണ്ടി അപേക്ഷ ബോധിപ്പിക്കുമ്പോൾ പ്രസ്തുത ഗവണ്മെന്റുത്തരവിനെ ലാക്കാക്കി അധികൃതസ്ഥാനങ്ങളിൽനിന്നും അനുകൂലമല്ലാത്ത മറുവടിയാണ് ഉണ്ടാകാറുള്ളതു്. അവരുടെ കുറവല്ല. ഈ ഉത്തരവിന്റെ ഫലം മാത്രമാണ്. തൻനിമിത്തം ഉദ്യോഗവിഷയത്തിൽ പിന്നോക്കംനില്ക്കുന്ന അവശസമുദായത്തിൽപെട്ട അനേകം പരീക്ഷാബിരുദധാരികൾക്ക് യഥാകാലം അവർ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്ന വിധത്തിൽ സർവ്വീസിൽ പ്രവേശനവും പ്രോൽസാഹനവും ലഭ്യമാകാതെ വളരെ സങ്കടപ്പെടുന്നുണ്ട്. അതിനാൽ പ്രസ്തുത ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ആർഡറിനെ പിൻവലിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. അങ്ങനെയെങ്കിൽ മറുള്ളവർക്കും അവശസമുദായങ്ങൾക്കും യഥാക്രമം കൂടുതൽ സൌകര്യവും സഹായവുമായി തീരുന്നതാണ്. അതിനാൽ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാൻ അനുകൂലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): ഇപ്പോൾ പാസ്സായിട്ടുള്ള അവശസമുദായത്തിൽപെട്ട ആളുകളെ നിയമിക്കാതെ ഫ ഫ ൦ ൦-ന് മേൽ പകരംനോക്കിയിട്ടുള്ള അവശസമുദായത്തിൽപെട്ട ആളുകളെ നിയമിച്ചാൽ മതിയെന്നാണോ മെമ്പറിന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം?

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MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI (*Nominated*) : ഇപ്പോൾ പരീക്ഷപാസ്സായിട്ടുള്ളവർ ഇല്ലെങ്കിൽ അവരെ നിയമിക്കാവുന്നതാണ്.

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominted*) : ഞാനും പ്രമേയത്തെ അനുകൂലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ൧൯൦൦-മുതൽ ൧൯൦൯-വരെ പകരംനോക്കിട്ടുള്ളവരെ നിയമിച്ചതിനുമേൽ മാത്രമേ മറ്റുള്ള അധ്യാപകന്മാരെ നിയമിക്കാൻ പാടുള്ളു എന്നാണ് ഗവണ്മെൻറു ആർഡർ ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളതു്. ൧൯൦൦-നുമുമ്പു് പകരംനോക്കിയിട്ടുള്ള ഒട്ടവളരെ അളുകൾ ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുമ്പോഴാണ് ഇങ്ങനെ ഒരു ആഡർ പുറപ്പെടുവിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു്. ൧൯൦൯-മുതൽ ൧൯൧൪-വരെ പകരംനോക്കിയിട്ടുള്ള അധ്യാപകന്മാരുംഉണ്ടു്. അവരെല്ലാം വളരെ കഷ്ടപ്പെടുന്നുണ്ടു്. പകരംനോക്കിയിട്ടുള്ളവരുടെ ലിസ്റ്റിൽ ൧൨൦൦ പേർ ഉണ്ടെങ്കിലും അതിൽ നാലോ അഞ്ചോ അധ്യാപകർമാത്രമേയുള്ളു എന്നസംഗതി ഗവണ്മെൻറു പ്രത്യേകം ധരിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. അധ്യാപകർക്കു പകരംജോലിപോലും ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലും കിട്ടുകയില്ലെന്നുള്ള സംഗതിയും ഗവണ്മെൻറുധരിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. ഞാൻ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു മേലധികാരികളെ കുറ്റംപറയുകയല്ല ചെയ്യുന്നതു്. ഒഴിവുള്ളിൽപ്പെട്ടവർക്കുമാത്രമേ ഉദ്യോഗത്തിലിരിക്കുന്നവർ തങ്ങളുടെ സ്ഥാനം ഒഴിഞ്ഞുകൊടുക്കുകയുള്ളു എന്നുവന്നാൽ ഒരു അധ്യാപകനു് ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലും പകരംനോക്കാൻകൂടി ഭാഗ്യം ഉണ്ടാകുകയില്ല എന്നുള്ള സംഗതിയും ഗവണ്മെൻറു് ധരിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. പകരംനോക്കിയിട്ടുള്ള ഒൻപതുപേരെ നിയമിക്കുമ്പോൾ വെളിയിൽനിന്നും ഒരു അധ്യാപകനെകൂടി നിയമിക്കണമെന്നു് മുമ്പു ഒരു പ്രത്യേകം ആർഡർ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു. അതനുസരിച്ചു് ഏതാനുംപേരെ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നും നിയമിക്കുകയും അടുത്തകാലത്തു അവരെ പിരിച്ചുവിടുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ആ ഉത്തരവിനെ റദ്ദുചെയ്തു പിരിച്ചുവിട്ടവരെ വീണ്ടും നിയമിച്ചു. അങ്ങിനെ ൧൭ പേരെ നിയമിച്ചതിൽ യഥാർത്ഥ അധ്യാപകരായി ൧൨ പേർ മാത്രമേയുള്ളു. കേവലം അധ്യാപകരായിരിക്കുന്നവരെമാത്രം നിയമിക്കണമെന്നാണു് ആദ്യത്തെ ഉത്തരവു്. ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു ചാഞ്ഞും ചരിഞ്ഞും മറുപടി പറയത്തക്കവിധത്തിൽ പിന്നോക്കം നില്ക്കുന്ന സമുദായക്കാരെക്കൂടി ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തി നിയമനം നടത്തിയിട്ടു് ഇങ്ങിനെ ഒരു ഉപാധികണ്ടുപിടിക്കുകയാണു് ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതു്. പകരംനോക്കിയിട്ടുള്ള എല്ലാവർക്കും അവകാശം ലഭിക്കുന്നതിനു് മുൻപറഞ്ഞ ആർഡറിനെ പിൻവലിക്കുകയും അധ്യാപകരെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം ഇരുപതു ശതമാനം ആളുകൾ [illegible] നിയമിക്കണമെന്നു് ഒരു

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പ്രത്യേകം ആർഡർ പാസ്സാക്കണമെന്നുമാണ് എന്റെ അഭ്യർത്ഥന. പകരംനോക്കിയിട്ടുള്ളവരുടെകൂട്ടത്തിൽ അധികം അധഃകൃതർ ഇല്ലെന്നുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടാണ് പ്രത്യേകം ആർഡർ വേണമെന്നു പറയുന്നത്. കഷ്ടത അനുഭവിക്കുന്നവരും ഗവണ്മെന്റുസർവ്വീസിൽ പ്രവേശിക്കുവാൻ കഴിവില്ലാതെ അലഞ്ഞുനടക്കുന്നവരും ഉദ്യോഗവിഷയത്തിൽ ഒട്ടും പ്രാതിനിധ്യം ഇല്ലാത്തവരും പകരംനോക്കിയിട്ടുള്ളവർ ഒട്ടുമില്ലാത്തവരുമായ അധഃകൃതരിൽനിന്നു നൂറിനു ൨൦ ശതമാനംവീതം നിയമനം നടത്തണമെന്നു ഞാൻ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു. മറുള്ളവരിൽനിന്നു പത്തുപേരെ നിയമിക്കുമ്പോൾ അധഃകൃതരിൽനിന്നു അതായതു പുറമെനിന്നുതന്നെ രണ്ടുപേരെ നിയമിക്കണമെന്നാണ് താല്പര്യം.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) യഥാർത്ഥഅധഃകൃതർ എന്നും അയഥാർത്ഥഅധഃകൃതർ എന്നും അധഃകൃതർ രണ്ടുവിധത്തിൽ ഉണ്ടോ?

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*) : യഥാർത്ഥ അധഃകൃതരുടെ ഒരു പട്ടിക ഗവണ്മെന്റിൽനിന്നും എടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. അവരാണ് യഥാർത്ഥഅധഃകൃതർ. ഉദ്യോഗവിഷയത്തിലും വിദ്യാഭ്യാസവിഷത്തിലും പിന്നോക്കംനില്ക്കുന്നവരാണ് അയഥാർത്ഥ അധഃകൃതർ, ഈഴവർ, നാടാർ മുതലായവർ പിന്നോക്കംനിൽക്കുന്ന അയഥാർത്ഥ അധഃകൃതരും, പുലയർ, പറയർ, ചേരമർ മുതലായവർ യഥാർത്ഥ അധഃകൃതരുമാണ്. പിന്നോക്കംനില്ക്കുന്ന അയഥാർത്ഥ അധഃകൃതരെ യഥാർത്ഥഅധഃകൃതരുടെ കൂട്ടത്തിൽചേർത്തു അധഃകൃതരിൽനിന്നും ഇത്രയാളുകളെ നിയമിച്ചു എന്നാണ് ഗവണ്മെന്റുഭാഗത്തുനിന്നു മറുപടി പറയാറുള്ളതു്. കേവലം അധഃകൃതരായിട്ടുള്ളവരെ പ്രത്യേകം നിയമിക്കണമെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അപേക്ഷയുടെ സാരം.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : പുലയർ, പറയർ മുതലായവർ ക്രസ്ത്യാനികളായാലും അവരെ അധഃകൃതരായിതന്നെ ഗണിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominate* : അതെ. മതം മാറിയതുകൊണ്ടു കുലം മാറുന്നില്ല എന്നുള്ളതു് എത്രയോ കാലമായി നടന്നുവരികയാണ്. കുറേക്കാലംമുമ്പു എല്ലാം ഒന്നായിപ്പോയി എന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറും മറുപൌരന്മാരും തെറ്റിധരിച്ചിരുന്നു. [illegible] കാലം കഴിഞ്ഞുപോയിരിക്കുന്നു. അധഃകൃതരുടെ ജാതിസംബന്ധമായ അനൌചിത്യം മതം മാറിയതുകൊണ്ടു നീങ്ങിയിട്ടില്ല. ഹിന്ദുക്കളുടെ ഇടയിലുള്ളതിനതുല്യമായ ജാതിവ്യവസ്ഥാസം

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[MR. N. John Joseph.]

ക്രസ്ത്യാനികളുടെ ഇടയിലുമുണ്ട്. പ്രാതിനിധ്യത്തിലും ഉദ്യോഗവിഷയത്തിലും കുസൂമതത്തിലും അവരെ പിന്നോക്കം നിറുത്തിയിരിക്കയാണ്. അതിനാൽ അധഃകൃതരെസംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം ഹിന്ദു എന്നും ക്രസ്ത്യൻ എന്നും ഉള്ള വ്യത്യാസംനോക്കാതെ അവർ അർഹിക്കുന്ന പ്രാതിനിധ്യം എല്ലാഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകളിലും കൊടുക്കണമെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അപേക്ഷ. വിശേഷിച്ചു വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിന്റെ മലയാളംശാഖയിൽ ന്നറിനു ൨ ൦ ശതമാനംവിതം അവർക്കുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണ്.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): ഒരു അധഃകൃതക്രസ്ത്യാനിക്കു് ഒരു അധഃകൃതഹിന്ദുവിനേക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ സൗകര്യം വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിലുംമറും കിട്ടുന്നില്ലേ?

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): മാനേജ മെൻറുസ്കൂളുകളിൽ പഠിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു ഏതാനും സൌകര്യം ലഭിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഉദ്യോഗസംബന്ധമായി യാതൊരു സൌകര്യവും കിട്ടിയിട്ടില്ല. മതപ്രാസംഗികന്മാർ എന്നുള്ളനിലയിൽപോലും യാതൊരു പ്രോൽസാഹനവും അവിടെനിന്നുകിട്ടിയിട്ടില്ല.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തെസംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം ഒരു അധഃകൃതഹിന്ദുവിനേക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ സൌജന്യം ഒരു അധഃകൃതക്രസ്ത്യാനനു നാം കൊടുക്കുകയില്ലേ?

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): മതംമാറിയാലും ഇല്ലെങ്കിലും അധഃകൃതസമുദായങ്ങൾക്കു കൂടുതൽ കൊടുക്കണമെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

MR R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): Sir, I do not think it is necessary for me to go in detail into the history of the question or to discuss here as to what led the Government to pass the order referred to in this resolution. I would just like to bring to the notice of the mover that Government are aware that there is in certain quarters considerable dissatisfaction as to the way in which the Government order operates. Government are also aware that the present conditions of recruitment to the Vernacular Schools are not entirely satisfactory. I may mention here that the attention of Government has been drawn to this order and they have under immediate consideration the question as to whether it should be withdrawn or modified. I may also assure the members that specific recommendations have been made in the Report of the Education Reforms Committee that this order should be withdrawn, so that it would in any case come under the consideration of Government when they consider that Report. On the above assurance, Sir, I do not think that the mover of the resolution would like to press the same.

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MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Hearing the assurance of the member, I do not wish to press the resolution.

PRESIDENT: Is it the pleasure of the House that the resolution be withdrawn?

The House agreed. The Resolution was withdrawn.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery I*): Sir, I move the following resolution :—

'This Assembly recommends to Government that a one year moratorium be granted to all agricultural and industrial loans and all loans issued from the Land Mortgage Bank."

In placing this resolution before the House, I do not think it necessary to introduce it with a long speech. A long speech on this subject would necessarily be a detailed description of the economic stringency of this country at this time. That being a well known fact, I think I can confidently place this resolution for the acceptance of the House without a long introduction. The members of this House who have been going through the Government Gazette might have noticed that pages and pages of the Gazette have been set apart for the notifications in connection with the sale of immovable properties for the arrears of land tax.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): One year from which date?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery I*): From the date on which it is sanctioned.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): Before the order is passed, certainly one year will be over.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): ഒരു വർഷകാല ത്തേക്ക് ഇങ്ങനെ മാറ്റിവച്ചാൽ അപ്പോഴാ ഈ അധ്യാപനം നീങ്ങു മെന്നു മെമ്പർക്കുവിശ്വാസമുണ്ടോ ?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery I*): അതു ലോകത്തിലുള്ള വിദഗ്ധന്മാരായ സാമ്പത്തികശാസ്ത്രജ്ഞന്മാർക്കു പോലും അറിയാൻ പാടില്ലാത്ത ഒരു സംഗതിയാണെന്നമാത്രമെ സമാധാനംപറയുവാനുള്ളൂ.

This kind of notifications for the sale of immovable properties for land tax has been going on for several months. As land tax is naturally the first liability on the properties, we can expect that one would be most anxious to pay it even before the various necessities of life are satisfied. And if so much difficulty is found in the payment of land tax, you can imagine what his real circumstances are. As a piece of curiosity I counted the number of notifications in the last Gazette and I found the number 976. That is approximately a thousand sales are notified in the last Governmen[illegible] *manga*

Another feature of the Gazette is the geometrical progression of the insolvency petitions. In the last Government Gazette alone, there

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[Mr. Kainikkara M. Padmanabha Pillai.]

are 13 notifications. If these are not sufficient to bring to the mind of the Assembly the very severe depression that is felt in the country, I do not think I can make it more clear.

All that I request Government now is to grant us a moratorium for one year. According to the budget, the agricultural loans that will be repaid during this year amounts to Rs. 1,50,000. In the budget for 1108, the sum expected was Rs. 2 lakhs. In the revised estimate, it came down to Rs. 1,50,000, and I am afraid when the actuals are known, it would have gone still down. If that was the case last year, there is no reason to believe that it would not be so this year. Even without sanctioning the moratorium, I am afraid the Government have not realised so far any sum expected this year. Now, to be short, my request is this. Whatever be the circumstances, they are beyond our control and the economic machinery is at a dead stand-still. I request Government to recognise the fact and give us a breathing space. If, as Mr. Velayudhan Pillai asked me, conditions are going to get better at the end of one year or not, I confess I do not know. The greatest intellects and the greatest financial experts in the world have failed to find a real solution for the problem. Only we can hope that God in his kindness will not ask us to lead this kind of miserable life for more than a year, and in the hope that a better day is not far off, I crave the indulgence of the Government in a small matter. It is only the postponement of the realisation of Rs. 1,50,000 on account of agricultural loans, Rs. 15,000 on account of industrial loans and Rs. 35,000 on all other loans taken together, or altogether Rs. 2 lakhs. I do not think this is a huge sum for the Travancore Government. Therefore I hope that the sympathetic Government will naturally and leniently accept the request put forward by me and oblige the various citizens of the State who are finding it absolutely difficult to keep to the terms under which they obtained the money.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): In seconding the resolution, I do not think that any case need be made out in support of the recommendation contained in the resolution. The financial stringency is a fact more fully known to the Government than to the public, because we hear almost every Government member replying to the various interpellations in regard to local and other needs giving out the excuse that such needs cannot be attended to for want of funds. Here it is comparatively a very small amount of about Rs. 2 lakhs. My point is that, on the principle on which such loans are advanced to the ryots and other people, on that very same principle itself, the Government cannot insist upon repayment of the loans on conditions once agreed to between the parties and the Government, because agricultural loans are advanced on the definite understanding that, with the amount available to them, ryots will improve their lands, extend cultivation and with the increased produce they will be able to derive as a result of the labours invested by them upon the

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lands they will be able to repay the loans in instalments. Government certainly did not contemplate that for the sake of his redeeming himself from indebtedness the ryot should part with his lands. What the Government expected him to do was to improve the land, increase the produce, sell them and repay the loan in instalments. Now, it is a matter of common knowledge to Government that no ryot in the State is able to pay back the loan under such circumstances, and so, my submission is that on the very same principle on which these loans are advanced, the Government ought to see, even without any recommendation from the quarters concerned, that there should be a moratorium. The same is the case with industrial loans also. We all know that industrial products manufactured here and elsewhere do not sell at such favourable rates as they used to be sold. There also the very same difficulty arises. My submission therefore is that Government have absolutely no justice if they take their stand against the recommendation contained in the resolution.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): Sir, I oppose the resolution. A general moratorium for the postponement of debts will not in any way improve matters. To give a general moratorium will mean the setting up of a dangerous precedent. It may create dead-locks in administration. So my submission is that Government must consider each case on its own merit and give relief in deserving cases.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Does the member think that there is even a single individual who has taken the agricultural or the industrial loan who is able to pay?

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): Yes.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Is it from the source of agriculture or industry that he will be able to pay?

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): From both.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Does the member mean to say that they will be able to pay back the debt from agriculture or industry alone? Are the poor industrialists or the agriculturists who have invested the borrowed money in the concern in a position to pay them back from the very same source?

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): My submission is that there are persons like that who are able to pay and that such persons need not be given any relief.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ച റസല്യൂഷനെ ഞാൻ എതിർക്കുന്നു. അതിലേക്കു പലകാരണങ്ങളും എനിക്കു പ്രസ്താവിക്കുവാനുണ്ടു. റസല്യൂഷൻ അവതരിപ്പിച്ച മെമ്പർ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചതുപോലെ അടുത്ത ഒരു ഭാവിയിൽ ഈ സാമ്പത്തികാധഃപതനത്തിനു ഗണ[illegible]ശമനം ഉണ്ടാകുമെന്നു പ്രതീക്ഷിക്കുന്നതിനു ന്യായമായ കാരണങ്ങളൊന്നുംതന്നെ ഇല്ലെന്നു അദ്ദേഹംതന്നെ സമ്മതിക്കുന്നു.

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MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery I*): അങ്ങനെ ഞാൻ സമ്മതിച്ചിട്ടില്ല.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): അടുത്തകാലത്തു ഒരു ശമനം ഉണ്ടാകുമെന്നു ആശിക്കുന്നു എന്ന് പ്രസ്താവിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഒരു വർഷകാലത്തേക്കു വായ്പകാലം അടയ്ക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള അവധി മാറിവയ്ക്കുന്നപക്ഷം ഈ സാമ്പത്തികാധഃപതനംഇതേനിലയിൽ തുടർന്നുപോകുന്നുഎങ്കിൽ അടുത്തവർഷത്തിൽ രണ്ടുവർഷത്തെ തവണകളും ഒരുമിച്ചു കടം വാങ്ങിയവർ കൊടുക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇങ്ങനെ കാലാവധി മാറുന്നതുനിമിത്തം തൽക്കാലശമനം ഉണ്ടെന്നു സങ്കല്പരൂപത്തിൽ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നതല്ലാതെ തൻമൂലം ഗുരുതരമായ പ്രയോജനം കടം എടുത്തവക്കുണ്ടാകുന്നില്ലെന്നുമാത്രമല്ലാ അടുത്തകാലത്തു ഇരട്ടിവിഷമം അനുഭവിക്കേണ്ടിയതായും വന്നുകൂടുന്നു.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): അങ്ങനെ വരുന്നകാലത്തു ഈ അസംബ്ളി ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുകയില്ലേ?

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Thiruvalla III*): അതു റവന്യൂലേഷൻ നോക്കിയാൽ അറിയാവുന്നതാണു്.

ഈ കാരണത്താൽതന്നെ ഈ പ്രമേയം അനുവദിക്കത്തക്കതല്ല.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): അടുത്തകൊല്ലത്തിലും ഈ കഷ്ടതതന്നെയാണു വന്നുചേരുന്നു എങ്കിൽ ആ സംഗതി പ്രമേയരൂപേണ ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചു പരിഹാരം ഉണ്ടാക്കാവുന്നതല്ലേ?

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): അങ്ങനെ ഒരു പ്രമേയത്തിന്റെ ആവശ്യംതന്നെ ഇല്ലെന്നാണു ഞാൻ പ്രസ്താവിക്കുവാൻ പോകുന്നതു്. കൃഷിവായ്പയും വ്യവസായവായ്പയും വാങ്ങിയിട്ടുള്ള ആളുകളുടെ സ്ഥിതിഗതികളെപ്പറ്റി ശരിയായി പരിഗണിച്ചു കടം അടയ്ക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള കാലാവധി വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുന്നവിഷയത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ സഹായവും ആനുകൂല്യവും അവർ ശരിയായി അർഹിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു് എന്നു കാണുന്നുഎങ്കിൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുമേലധികാരികൾക്കു ഈവക സൌജന്യങ്ങൾ നൽകുന്നതിനു നിയമംതന്നെ അനുവദിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. വായ്പകാലം തിയ്യതി അടക്കുന്ന വിഷയത്തിൽ ഒരുവർഷത്തെ കാലാവധിമാറിവെക്കണമെന്നാണു് പ്രമേയത്തിൽ ഉള്ളതെങ്കിൽ ഈവക വായ്പകാലം തിരിയെ കൊടുക്കുന്നതിൽ കടം വാങ്ങിയവർക്കു തീരെ അപ്രാപ്തരാകുമെന്നു കാണുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഒരുവർഷത്തിനുപകരം എത്രവർഷം വേ

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ണമെങ്കിലും ന്യായമായ കാരണത്തിന്മേൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറുമേലധികാരികൾക്കു കാലാവധിനീട്ടി കൊടുക്കുന്നതിന് അവകാശമുണ്ട്.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): ആ അവകാശം ഈ റസല്യൂഷൻ കൊണ്ടു എടുത്തുകളയുന്നതാണോ?

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : അതിനു ഈ റസല്യൂഷന്റെ ആവശ്യം ഇല്ല. ന്യായമായ കാരണത്തിന്മേൽ കൂടുതൽകാലാവധി നീട്ടിക്കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുമേലധികാരികൾക്കു അധികാരം ഉള്ളസ്ഥിതിക്ക് അതിന്റെ വ്യാപ്തിയേയും പ്രാബല്യത്തേയും ചുരുക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു മേലധികാരികൾ അങ്ങനെ പ്രവൃത്തിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു പറയുവാൻ ധൈര്യമുണ്ടോ?

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടു മേലധികാരികൾ ന്യായമായും അനുഭാവപൂർവമായും പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നു ഞാൻ അറിഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ല. ശരിയായി പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നു എന്നാണ് എന്റെ അറിവ്.

അതുകൂടാതെ ഈ കൃഷിവായ്പയും വ്യവസായവായ്പയും എടുക്കുന്ന ആളുകൾ ആ വക വായ്പാസംഖ്യകൾ കാർഷികമായും വ്യാവസായികമായുമുള്ള പരിശ്രമങ്ങൾക്കായി വിനിയോഗിച്ചുകൊള്ളാമെന്നുള്ള പ്രതിജ്ഞയിന്മേലും ഉറപ്പിന്മേലും പണം വാങ്ങിയതിനുശേഷം ഒറ്റ പൈസപോലും അവർ നിശ്ചിതകാര്യനിർവ്വഹണത്തിനുവേണ്ടി ചിലവാക്കാതെ വായ്പയുടെ ഉദ്ദേശത്തിനു അശേഷം യോജിപ്പില്ലാത്ത മറ്റു കാര്യങ്ങൾക്കുവേണ്ടി ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): അങ്ങനെ വരുന്ന എങ്കിൽ മുഴുവൻ തുകയും ആ ആളിൽനിന്നും തിരിയെ ഈടാക്കുന്നതിനുവകുപ്പില്ലേ?

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : അങ്ങനെ വകുപ്പുണ്ട്.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): ആ വകുപ്പനുസരിച്ചു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നില്ലേ?

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*). ഈ മാരത്തോറിയം അനുവദിച്ചു പാസാക്കുന്നപക്ഷം [illegible] താമസംകൂടാതെ പണം ചിലവാക്കുന്ന ആളിൽനിന്നും പണം നിർബന്ധസരണം മൊത്തമായി തിരിയെ ഈടാക്കാൻ ആ കാലഘട്ടത്തിനുള്ളിൽ [illegible] വരുന്നതാണ്.

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MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanacchery I*): ഇതി നുമുമ്പു അങ്ങനേയുള്ള കടം തിരിയെ ഈടാക്കുന്നതിന്ന് ഈ മാറ്റോറി യം പ്രതിബന്ധമായിരുന്നോ?

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Thiruvalla III*): അതുകൊണ്ടു ഈ മാറ്റോറിയം അനുവദിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം ന്യായമായി വായ്പ ഈടാക്കേണ്ട ആളിൽനിന്നുകൂടി സംഖ്യ കിട്ടാതെവരും.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): വസ്തുക്കളുടെ ആദായം കൊണ്ടു കടംതീക്കാമെന്നല്ലേ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു്?

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): അതെ.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): വസ്തുക്കളുടെ ആദാ യം വളരെ കുറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നറിയാമോ ?

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): വസ്തുക്കളിൽ നി ന്നും ലഭിച്ചുവരുന്ന ആദായങ്ങൾക്കു വില കുറവുണ്ടു്.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): ചില വസ്തുക്കൾക്കുമാ ത്രം ആദായം കുറയുകയും ചില വസ്തുക്കൾക്കു ആദായം കുറയാതിരിക്ക യും ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): എല്ലാവസ്തുക്കളി ലേയും ആദായത്തിനു വില കുറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അങ്ങനെ ആദായം കുറ ഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ള ആളുകൾ ആ സംഗതി അധികാരികളെ ബോധ്യപ്പെടുത്തു ന്നപക്ഷം അവക്കു പരിഹാരം ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കുന്നതാണു്.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): വസ്തുക്കളുടെ വിലകുറവാണോഅ തല്ല വിഭവങ്ങളുടേയും വില കുറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): ഈ രണ്ടുവിഷയ ത്തിലും കുറവുവന്നിട്ടുണ്ടായേക്കാം.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): സാമാനങ്ങളുടെ വിലക്കുറവു കളെമാത്രം ബാധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതാണോ അതല്ല എല്ലാവരേയും ഒരുപോലെ ബാധിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): സാമാനങ്ങൾ വി ൽക്കാനുള്ളവക്കു എല്ലാവക്കും ഒരുപോലെതന്നെ ഭ്രസ്വത്തുജാമ്യബാങ്കി ൽ നിന്നും കൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ള [illegible] തിരിച്ചടത്താണു് മറ്റുള്ള അപേക്ഷ കന്മാർക്കു കടംകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു്. ആ തുകകൾ സമയത്തി നു ഓരോരുത്തരിൽനിന്നും തിരി[illegible]കിട്ടാതിരുന്നാൽ പിന്നീടുള്ള ആർ

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ഹരായ അപേക്ഷകന്മാർക്ക ഈ സ്ഥാപനത്തിൽനിന്നും യാതൊരു സഹായവും ലഭിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കാതെ വരുന്നതാണ്. ക്രടാതെ ഈ മാറ ട്ടോറിയം നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തിയിട്ടുള്ള മറ്റുസ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ അതുകൊണ്ടു ശരിയായ പ്രയോജനം ഉണ്ടായിട്ടില്ലെന്നാണ ഞാൻ ധരിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): വേണമെന്നുള്ള അളുകൾക്ക എത്രസമയവും നീട്ടിക്കൊടുക്കാമെങ്കിൽ അതായതുകൊല്ലത്തിൽപണം തിരിയെ കൊടുക്കാതിരുന്നാൽ വീണ്ടും കടം കൊടുക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുകയില്ലെ?

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla* III): ഞാൻ ട്രസ്റ്റത്തു ജാമ്യബാങ്കിന്റെ കാര്യമാണ പറയുന്നതു്. ഈ സ്ഥാപനത്തിനു കൃഷിവായ്പയേയും വ്യവസായവായ്പയേയും പോലെ പ്രതിവർഷം ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ അലോട്ടുമെന്റില്ല.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): Sir, I do agree with the learned mover of the resolution that our economic condition is very miserable and that most of us are steeped in debt and the number of insolvency petitions is on the increase. But I do not agree with the specific demand made by the mover of this resolution, *viz.*, that a moratorium should be given for one year. I do not understand what relief our people can derive by giving effect to his resolution. The postponement of the payment of the existing liabilities for one year will not in any way give any relief to us. On the other hand, it will only augment our economic difficulties. If the intention of the mover of the resolution was to reduce the interest or the penalty of the existing liabilities, it would have been a great benefit to the debtors. On the other hand, the mere postponement will only increase our indebtedness and the accumulation of such debts will only create considerable difficulties for future payment. The period of the moratorium is very limited. If it was for a period of five years, it would have given some benefit.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): So does not the member want a slight remedy?

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): I do not consider it as a remedy at all.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): If the mover of the resolution had fixed the period at five years, would the member have agreed?

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): If it is without the reduction of interest or penalty, there is no use of even that recommendation being carried into effect. For these reasons, I strongly oppose the resolution.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum South*): Sir, I feel constrained to oppose this resolution in its present form. Much has been said about moratorium,

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MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Will the member please explain what is meant by moratorium?

M. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): As a lawyer I find the parallel of persons asking for partial reduction in their debts which no court of law will agree. In the same manner I cannot think of a partial moratorium so far as the Government and its debtors are concerned. The implication of moratorium makes it evident that the term contemplates a suspension of the repayment of debts by members of the community to one another. This high-sounding moratorium is therefore absolutely unnecessary and I would submit that it is even wrong. I should think that the House would agree if it was stated that "This Assembly recommends to the Government that the rules and contracts as to repayment of agricultural, industrial and other loans issued from the Land Mortgage Bank be suspended for an year". That is capable of some meaning.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): May I know what else is meant by the term moratorium by the member?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): As a lawyer I hope my friend will understand that there is no meaning in the postponement of a partial debt. I have never heard the postponement of the repayment of a particular class of debts and the payment of the other.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Will the member explain what exactly is meant by the term?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): It is the postponement of the payment of debts by legislation or by appropriate means.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know from the member whether he is prepared to accept the resolution if it is worded in the modified form suggested by the member?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): I shall consider that question when the occasion arises.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Has he any objection to accept the resolution if it includes the postponement of interest on loans?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): I cannot subscribe to the resolution in its present form obviously due to the fault of the language.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Has the member understood the intention of the mover of the resolution?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): That question presupposes a number of things. I do not propose to answer that question. I take the responsibility for expressing my views and I take it that I understand the implications of [illegible] expressions.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN (*Nominated*): Sir, I rise to support the resolution that is before the [illegible]. It is a well-known fact that the agriculturists have sunk deep in debt and that they are living in extraordinary times.

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Every day their condition is getting worse and not better. From the numerous applications for extension of time for repayment of agricultural loans and from the "geometrical progression"—to adopt the phraseology of the mover—of the number of insolvency petitions, and from the fact that a member of the State Council is going to introduce a Debt Conciliation Bill and also from the fact that there is general agitation for a legislative enactment postponing the execution of decrees in Civil Courts, it is clear that the condition of the people is far from happy Under these circumstances, it is nothing but reasonable that Government should extend the time of repayment of agricultural and industrial loans at least by one year. So also the loans advanced by the Land Mortgage Bank. The very object with which that Bank was established was to afford relief to the agriculturist and the industrialist. As conditions are getting worse day by day, it is only fair that some concession is shown to the debtors. Though there is some difference of opinion with regard to the wording of the resolution, the intention of the mover is clear. Therefore, I heartily support the resolution.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാനും പിന്താങ്ങുന്നു. ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ച അവസരത്തിൽ വലിയ വാദപ്രതിവാദങ്ങൾക്കൊന്നും അവസരംകൊടുക്കാതെ ഗവണ്മെൻറുഭാഗത്തുനിന്നും ഇതിനെ സ്വീകരിക്കുമെന്നാണു ഞാൻ വിചാരിച്ചിരുന്നതു്. എന്നാൽ ഇവിടെ നടന്ന വാദപ്രതിവാദം കേട്ടപ്പോൾ ഒരു റസല്യൂഷൻ മുഖേന സംഗതികളെല്ലാം ധരിപ്പിച്ചാൽ മാത്രമേ അതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു ഏതെങ്കിലും ചെയ്യാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറു തയ്യാറാകുകയുള്ളുവെന്നു തോന്നിപ്പോകുന്നു. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ കർഷകരായ ജനസാമാന്യത്തിൻെറ സ്ഥിതി വളരെ കഷ്ടതയിലാണെന്നു ബഡ്ജറുസമ്മേളനത്തിലും മറവസരങ്ങളിലും ദിവസംതോറും എന്നപോലെ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ ധരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടും അവയെല്ലാം വെറും വനരോദനംപോലെ കലാശിച്ചിരിക്കുകയാണു്. ജനങ്ങളുടെ യഥാർത്ഥമായനില ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഇതുവരെ മനസ്സിലാക്കീട്ടില്ലെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നതിൽ വലിയ തെറ്റില്ലെന്നു തോന്നുന്നുണ്ടു്. കരം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനും സാധാരണ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾ നിറവേറുന്നതിനും ഇവിടത്തെ ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങൾക്കും നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാതിരിക്കുന്നു എന്നുള്ളതു ഒരു പരമാർത്ഥമാണു്. ഈ സംഗതി ഗവണ്മെൻറിഞ്ഞില്ലെങ്കിൽ ഈ നാട്ടുകാരുടെ സ്ഥിതി വളരെ അപകടത്തിലാകുമെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി ഞാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ ഓർമ്മിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

കൃഷിവായ്പ, കടംവീട്ടൽ [illegible] പ എന്നിത്യാദിയുള്ള വായ്പകൾ എടുക്കുന്നവർ ഇവിടെ [illegible] റന്മാർ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചമാതിരി വായ്പയിൽ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചിരുന്ന [illegible] ചെലവാക്കാതെ ആ പണം ഉപ

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[Mr. N. E. Varughese.]

യോഗിക്കാതെ മറ്റു സാധാരണ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കു വായ്പകിട്ടിയ സംഖ്യയെ ഉപയോഗിച്ചു എന്നു വന്നേക്കാമെങ്കിലും കൃഷിനടത്തി അതിൽനിന്നും കിട്ടുന്ന ആദായംകൊണ്ടു കടം തീർത്തുകൊള്ളാമെന്നുദ്ദേശിച്ചാണു കടംവായ്പ എടുക്കുന്നതു്. ഇങ്ങനെ കടം എടുക്കുന്നതു ധനികന്മാരോ കോടീശ്വരന്മാരൊ അല്ല, തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ സാധാരണക്കാരായ കൃഷിക്കാരാണു്. ഇപ്പോൾ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ ഉൽപ്പന്നങ്ങളുടെ വില വളരെ കുറഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നതു നിമിത്തം കുടുംബച്ചിലവുകൾ, നികുതി, കുട്ടികളുടെ ഫീസു് എന്നീ ഇനങ്ങൾ കഷ്ടിച്ചു നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നു എന്നല്ലാതെ മറ്റു ഒരു സംഗതിയും നടത്താൻ അവർക്കു സാധിക്കാതിരിക്കുന്നു. മേൽപറഞ്ഞ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾതന്നെയും ചിലർ കടം വാങ്ങിച്ചിട്ടാണു നിർവ്വഹിച്ചുപോരുന്നതു്. ഈ അവസരത്തിൽ ഇങ്ങനേയുള്ളവർക്കു് അല്പമെങ്കിലും ശമനംകിട്ടിയാൽ നന്നായിരിക്കുമെന്നു വിചാരിച്ചാണു് ഈ സൌജന്യം ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടതു്.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): അതു ഒരുവർഷക്കാലത്തേക്കുമാത്രം മാറ്റിവക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു ശരിയായ പ്രയോജനം ഉണ്ടാകുമോ?

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): മനുഷ്യർ മരിച്ചുപോകുമെന്നുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു രോഗത്തിനു മരുന്നു കൊടിക്കണ്ടാ എന്നു പറയുന്നതുപോലേയാണു് ഈ ചോദ്യത്തിന്റെ താല്പര്യം.

തൽക്കാലമെങ്കിലും ഒരു ശമനംകിട്ടുന്നതു നല്ലതല്ലേ? ഒരു വർഷം കഴിഞ്ഞു് എല്ലാംനന്നായിത്തന്നെ ഇരിക്കുമെന്നു നമുക്കു വിചാരിക്കാം.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): കൃഷിവായ്പയും വ്യവസായവായ്പയും എടുത്തു വീഴ്ചവരുത്തിയാൽ അതിലേക്കു എന്തുപലിശ കൊടുക്കേണ്ടിവരുമെന്നറിയാമോ?

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla*): പലിശ കൂടുതൽതന്നെ.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): അങ്ങനെയുള്ള സംഗതികളിലും പരിഹാരം കിട്ടണമെന്നാണോ റസല്യൂഷനിൽ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു്?

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE ((*Tiruvalla*): ഒരു വർഷത്തേക്കു ഗവണ്മെന്റിൽനിന്നും കഴിവുള്ള സ്വ[illegible] ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നു റസല്യൂഷനിൽ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചിരി[illegible] ഞാൻ മനസ്സിലാക്കിയിരിക്കുന്നതു്.

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MR. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): ഫ ഫ ൦ ൧-ലെ ക രം ഫ ഫ ൦ വ-ർഷകം കൊടുത്താൽ മതിയെന്ന നിശ്ചയിച്ചിരുന്നതു നി മിത്തം ഗുണമാണോ അതല്ല ദോഷമാണോ ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളതു്?

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla*) : ഏതു സെഷനിലാണു അങ്ങ നെ തീരുമാനിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു്?

MR. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Karunagapally*): ഫ ഫ ൦ ൧-ലായിരു ന്നു അങ്ങനെ നിശ്ചയിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla*) : ആ അവസരത്തിൽ ഞാൻ ഈ സഭയിലെ മെമ്പറല്ലായിരുന്നു.

MR. M K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : മെമ്പർ അംഗ മായി ഇരുന്നിട്ടുള്ള അവസരങ്ങളിൽ ഉള്ള സഭാനടപടികൾ മാത്രമേ പഠിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളുവോ ?

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla*). അങ്ങനെ ഒരു പ്രമേയം പാ സായിട്ടുള്ളതായി എനിക്കറിയാം. അതു ഗുണമാണോ ദോഷമാണോ എന്നു പറയത്തക്കവിധം അനുഭവത്തിൽ വന്നിട്ടില്ല.

ജനപക്ഷത്തുനിന്നും ആവശ്യപ്പെടുന്ന ഏറ്റവും താഴ്ന്ന ഒരു അ പേക്ഷയാണിതു്. ഇതു ചെയ്യുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനയാതൊരുദോ ഷവും ഉണ്ടാകുവാനില്ല. അതിനാൽ ഈ റസല്യൂഷനിൽ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചിരി ക്കുന്ന കാര്യസാധ്യത്തിനു ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും എന്തെല്ലാം ചെയ്തു കൊടുക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കുമോ അതെല്ലാം ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നു അ പേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു് ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാൻ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*) : I rise to support the resolution. The request contained in the resolution is a most modest one. I never expected this resolution would cause so much opposition here. One member argued that the resolution need not be carried because there might be a few cases in which the borrowers might be able to pay back in time. Merely because there are a few persons who do not need any relief, I do not see why the majority should not get the relief which they need so much. Another member expressed his doubt that, under the resolution, this year's instalment (now proposed to be postponed) will have to be paid along with the instalment due next year, and said that that would be almost impossible for the borrowers. I do not think the resolution suggests that, nor does the wording seem to warrant such an interpretation. What the r[illegible]s is that a debt repayable in five years may be made payable in Nine years.

MR. K. C. ABRAHAM (*Karamangad*) : Does the member consider it right to be generous to a [illegible] at the expense of the general tax-payer?

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MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): I want generosity to be shown to all.

MR. K. C. ABRAHAM (*Kottayam II*): Does not the member realise that the agricultural and industrial loan benefit, comparatively, only a few?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): I want relief to be given to *all* those who have taken agricultural loans.

Another argument that was brought forward against the resolution was that individual cases of extreme hardship might brought to the attention of Government for extension of time and that Government would readily grant extension of time in such cases: in other words, that the discretion should be given to the officere of the department, That would have been enough if the investigation of the hardship in inidvidual cases is to be done by the head of the department or by the fficers next to him. What now happens is that, as usual, the Proverthikar is asked to do it.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Am I to take it that according to the member, there is not even one who is really able to pay back the loan in time?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): I have already stated that there may be a few who are able to pay back in time.

MR. K. C. ABRAHAM (*Kottayam II*): Is the member aware of the condition of all the people who have taken agricultural and industrial loans?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): No. But the prices of all commodities have gone down. Therefore, anybody who knows the conditions prevailing here can also know that it will not be possible for the average man to repay his debt in time.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): In view of such general conditions, does the member consider it fair that individual ability to repay should be investigated?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): No, not at all.

MR. K. C. ABRAHAM (*Kottayam II*): Is the member aware that the price of cashew-nut has gone higher?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): No. It has also gone down.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Is any amount advanced for cultivating cashew-nut trees?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): Only a small amount, I think.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether there is any representation from the people, who have already taken loans, to the effect that they are not able to [illegible]

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kotta[illegible]*y have sent in their representations.

MR. M. SIVATANU PI[illegible] May I know at least one instance?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam*[illegible]ow so many. So there is no necessity for enquiring specially [illegible] case of particular persons.

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think the Government authorities themselves will be able to satisfy the member that they have been getting petitions after petitions for relief, for extension and all that, and I think the member might have noticed in the Gazette nearly 1,000 cases of sale of immovable property for arrears of Government tax. If that is the case, I am surprised to hear such a question from members who are expected to know the real conditions of the people of Travancore, at least, of those people whom they represent in the Assembly (*Hear, hear*).

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Am I to understand from the member that he has direct knowledge of the inability of those persons who have taken loans to repay?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): I know many cases. I think it is a dangerous policy to give any discretion in the matter of giving relief to particular individuals.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): Will the member be satisfied if the higher authorities go and investigate the matter personally?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): It is impossible, and I am not going to be satisfied with an impossible condition.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): May I know from the member whether the loans are not advanced to land-owners whose lands are sold for arrears?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): No; the loans are advanced to all those people who are interested in getting a loan to improve their properties.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Is not the sum-total of these agricultural, industrial and land mortgage bank debts infinitesimal compared to the totality of the general debts in Travancore?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): The general debts are certainly very great.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Is not the grant of the agricultural, industrial or land mortgage bank loan itself a concession shown by the Government?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): Yes, that was a concession when it was given.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Does the member know that only a few persons who apply for these loans do get it?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): Yes.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): In that case, if these rules are suspended, would it not be a further concession added to a former concession?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): Because of the special circumstances under which we [illegible] I think that concession is deserved.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Alangad*, *Chalakudy* cum *Cochin*): May I know from the member if he has got an [illegible] the postponement of the repayment of the debts in other [illegible] also?

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MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): I have no objection at all. It is only a modest request that has been placed before the Assembly.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): What will be the total amount of the debts under agricultural, industrial and Land Mortgage Bank loans, due next year?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): I do not know the whole amount.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Roughly what is it?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): I do not know.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): What will be the total agricultural indebtedness in the country?

MR. M. N. NIAR (*Kottayam I*): My information is that it is about Rs. 25 crores.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): Does the member think that the postponement of the repayment of debts is a sound principle?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): It is a very sound principle under such circumstances.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): But not so far as the creditors are concerned?

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): Not at all. But so far as the debtors are concerned, it is. Therefore, with very great pleasure, I support the resolution with this request that, if at all, Government are thinking of giving some relief, they must do it to the general public and not to some persons only to satisfy illegitimately those engaged in investigations.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): Sir, I am in perfect sympathy with the object of the resolution, but I am sorry I cannot see eye to eye with the mover of the resolution in regard to the form in which it is presented to us. If I had been convinced that by the acceptance of this resolution the body of persons who are intended to be benefited would really be benefited, then I would have unhesitatingly given my support to the resolution. But I am inclined to think, Sir, that instead of operating to their benefit, it would operate the other way, that is, to their detriment. It would, in most of the cases, add to the burden of these borrowers, as they would be called upon to pay two or three instalments at one and the same time. The resolution further pre-supposes, Sir, that there will be an improvement in the economic condition of the country a year hence. Sir, that is a state of affairs which I cannot visualise with any degree of certainty. Again, Sir, this principle of granting of suspension or moratorium in the repayment of loans is very unsound. It has been tried elsewhere; it has been tried in bigger spheres in the matter of repayment of international debts, it has been found to be attended with disastrous consequences.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN (*Mavelikara*): Consequences to whom? To the creditor nation?

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): To all the nations concerned.

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MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know where it has been tried?

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): In regard to the repayment of international debts.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Is it with reference to Germany?

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): All the nations who were called upon to pay back the amounts that they had to pay after the period of moratorium.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): മാറ്റോറിയം അനുവദിച്ചതു കൊണ്ടു ആ സ്റ്റേറിന് വല്ല ദോഷവും ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): Oh, yes. It has resulted in disastrous consequences. As I said, Sir, if I were convinced that this will really give some relief to all these people, I would have supported this resolution. But in fact, it will not afford any relief to them. It is unsound in principle. It will operate harshly in the case of these people a year hence. So, Sir, I do not see any way to accept the resolution, and I oppose it.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): I support the resolution specially for the very simple reason that if the resolution were accepted, it would bring home to the Government the real situation in the country. What is now wanted is only a very small measure of relief. But I would go a step further and say that this sort of relief must be given in the case of all debtors in the country. For, from the economic survey which has been taken of the agricultural indebtedness, we find varying figures given. But, at the lowest, it can never go below Rs. 50 crores at the present moment, and, as calculated by the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee, we find that the interest, taking it at the least at 9 per cent. will come to at least Rs. 4½ crores per annum. The country has been unable to pay that interest for the last four years and more, because the economic depression started in October 1929.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Who used to get this interest?

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): The people amongst themselves. Of course, the Government of Travancore is not only a big landlord, it is not only a manufacturer, but it is also a creditor. In this particular instance, it is only one of the smallest of creditors in the country. It is the people who have to suffer. The amount under the heads of agricultural, industrial and other loans will not exceed Rs. [illegible] whereas the people in general who are creditors in the cou[illegible] to realise a sum of Rs. 50 crores with interest thereo[illegible] 4½ crores. There is at present no possibility of getti[illegible] loan or the interest from any source whatsoever. Of co[illegible] a good thing altogether to establish a general moratorium [illegible] the country putting an end to all suits and it will be helpfu[illegible] minimising the work in courts

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MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Will not the creditor people suffer?

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): In any event they are going to suffer.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Addttional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Then why give relief?

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): This will point to the Government the danger to which we are drifting. Of course, we in Trivandrum do not seem to take note of the present economic condition of the country. We are living in a bankrupt's paradise. If you go into the country you will find the sort of difficulty people undergo. But here it is altogether different. We do not realise the extremely deplorable condition in which we are situated and absolutely no anxiety seems to be bestowed upon the serious economic depression in the country. Therefore, this recommendation, if accepted by the House, will be a warning to the Government to take heed of the future. Therefore, I fully support the resolution which has been moved.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Sir, I oppose the resolution. I smell something like the landed or moneyed interest asserting itself. The money collected by Government by way of interest on loans advanced to the people is always intended to be utilised in the interests of the general public at large (*Hear, hear*). I must say that any money acquired by Government in this legitimate and legal way, particularly by levying a very small rate of ½ interest on loans advanced to people who at any rate are owners of landed property, naturally goes to the public welfare.

Here, as the resolution is worded, it appears to benefit only those people who own lands and, at the same time, on the strength of the security of their lands, have borrowed money from Government. Well, if the real intention of the mover of the resolution as well as the supporters of the resolution is to give relief to the public at large, I say they are only stultifying themselves by means of this resolution; because certainly it is not in the interests of the public of the State as a whole but only in that of a set of people who are rich enough to own lands in the State. Then it is common knowledge, Sir, that in this State of ours, here there are people, 95 per cent. of whom are landless, and I am rather surprised to hear it talked about by the members that the acceptance of this resolution will go a long way to relieve the distress of the people. If by people is meant, not the 95 per cent. who are landless but only the five [illegible] who own lands, I can understand the spirit of the resolu[illegible] the collection of any amount that has to go into the G[illegible] r from this five per cent. of the people is to be postpo[illegible] to protest against it and say that it should be realised e[illegible] eral interests of the public at large. Sir, some members se[illegible] crocodile tears and say that there should be remission of tax[illegible] g of doles to people who are

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unemployed. But at the same time they come here to make out a case that their demand is a modest one.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): May I know from the member whether the agricultural loan is intended to benefit the landowners or all the people?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Only the landowners.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): Is it the idea of the member that those persons who have taken loans from the Government in this capacity do not require any sort of relief from the Government even under special circumstances?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I heartily endorse the sentiments given expression to by Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai. The very grant of the loan itself is a concession to these landed classes, for it is given at an insignificant rate of interest, namely, six per cent., and is allowed to run over a period of 20 to 25 years which the 95 per cent. of the people could not even dream of getting.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): Even if Government insist on taking back the instalment at this time when the depression of money is so intense, does not the member think that many land-owners will have to part with their lands for a very low price?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Sir, the pity of it is that we are sent out to this House on a property qualification franchise. It is high time that adult franchise is introduced.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): If the land is sold, does it not pass into the hands of another inside the State?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Certainly.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Do these landless people to whom the member so pathetically refers fly in the air or live upon the lands of these agricultural debtors?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Of course they are also constituted as stout as some people but they do not fly in the air. I think and hold strongly that by this resolution the people of this State as a whole will not be benefited.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Which is the resolution that will benefit the people of the whole State?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): It is for the member to help himself.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Would the member give any information on the point?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Provided the member would put the question in the proper time and proper place.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Does the member think the whole public require RANGADU (*Tirumangadu*) view of the prevailing economic depression?

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MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): No doubt about it.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Does the member think that those who have taken agricultural loans or industrial loans form a section of the public?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): A section of the public also is public in legal parlance. I know that because I am a little bit of a lawyer myself.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Do they form the general public in Travancore?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Certainly a part, but that section should not be encouraged to the detriment or sacrifice of the general public.

So, Sir, this resolution gives alleviation only to a minor section of the public.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether the member realises that this resolution does not apply to loans granted by Co-operative Banks?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): No. The Co-operative Banks would studiously oppose it.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Does the member realise that the resolution does not refer to that?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I am fully aware of it. There is no necessity for the member to put such a question. I am here concerned with the agricultural loans or land mortgage loans. The member need not be in any way anxious about the Co-operative Banks, which will look after themselves.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): നാളികേരം വിറ്റുകിട്ടുന്ന പണംകൊണ്ട് കടംതീർത്തുകൊള്ളാമെന്നു വിചാരിച്ച് മറ്റു വസ്തുവകകൾ കൃഷിവായ്പ എടുക്കുകയും നാളികേരത്തിനുണ്ടായ വിലക്കുറവു നിമിത്തം അയാൾക്കു പണം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിന് നിവർത്തിയില്ലാതെവരികയുംചെയ്യുകയാണെങ്കിൽ അയാളോടു ഗവൺമെൻറ് എങ്ങിനെപെരുമാറണമെന്നാണ് മെമ്പറിൻെറ അഭിപ്രായം?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): ഉടനടി ആ വസ്തുവിനെ ലേലംചെയ്ത് കിട്ടുന്ന വിലയുടെ അടുത്തുള്ള സാധുക്കൾക്കു കൊടുത്തു പണം ഈടാക്കണം.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): ഈ തരം മനസ്ഥിതിയുള്ള ആളുകളെയാണോ മെമ്പർ പ്രതിനിധീകരിക്കുന്നത്?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI: [illegible] ഒരുപ്രാവശ്യം വോട്ടവകാശം കൊടുക്കണമെന്ന അഭിപ്രായക്കാരൻ [illegible] താൻ.

The resolution as it [illegible] ally objectionable and unfair and as such I oppose the resolution [illegible] permits people who are able to repay the loan to put off such payment and that is not fair.

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MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): I support the resolution. In the interests of the Government as well as in the interests of the people, in the interests of the creditor as well as in the interests of the debtor, it is essential that this resolution shall be accepted not only by this side of the House.—I mean the non-official side,—but by that side of the House—I mean the official side. Due to the prevailing economic depression in the country and the poverty of the people, if the properties that are given as securities for the loans that have been taken by the people, are put into auction today, I am sure the Government will not be able to recover their amount and no man would be able to purchase them in auction for any reasonable price. Hence I request the House that this resolution be accepted.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Sir, the resolution deals with three classes of loans, agricultural loans, industrial loans and loans issued by the Land Mortgage Bank. The discussion mainly deals with the loans issued under the Agricultural Loans Regulation. I shall speak as representing the Land Revenue Department. What is asked for by the member is the postponing for one year of the repayment of the loans taken under the Land Improvement and Agricultural Loans Regulation. Now, first of all, I wish to say—

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): Does it not also contemplate the foregoing of interest for that period?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income-Tax Commissioner*): No, it does not. It is only postponing of the collection of the loan.

Now, Sir, the member has requested only for a postponement for one year of the payment of the loan. I may tell the House that the Government are doing far more than that. I have statistics in my hands to show that, in as many as four hundred cases, Government have given extensions of time. Besides granting extensions of time, Government have also, in a few cases, even allowed an increase, in the number of instalments for repayment of the loans. The member's request in this resolution is only to do part of what Government are doing at present.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know the total number of cases in which extensions have been granted?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I cannot say exactly. Practically all the applications for extension of time are being granted.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether Government have denied any extension of [illegible] ybody?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. [illegible] Revenue and Income-Tax Commissioner*): Not that I am a[illegible]

MR. [illegible] (*Nedumangad*): [illegible]

Rule 10 under the Loa[illegible] allows the authorities who grant the loans to give suspe[illegible]e for repayment also. That rule is today freely applied.

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MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Does that not involve payment of double the amount for the next instalment?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That is a point which we are now considering—whether suspension of one instalment does not involve a further suspension of the future instalments. This case has arisen only just now. It has not been decided. To those who are really hard up and find repayment burdensome, suspension of time is freely granted. I do not accept the statement made by Mr. M. N. Nair. People who have taken the loan apply to the Land Revenue Commissioner or the Dewan Peishkar or to the Tahsildar and the application comes to the proper authorities who have the power of granting suspensions. If a person who has taken a loan applies to the Land Revenue Commissioner, it is sent down to the Tahsildar through the Peishkar. Invariably I find that the Peishkar deals with such applications with sympathy and recommends the grant of extensions of time.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): Does the member think the Peishkar himself makes the enquiry or does he base his report on the repoft of the Proverthicar?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) So far as I am aware, the Peishkar generally recommends the grant of extensions of time. What I wish to say is that there is no need really to make the recommendation to Government. But as regards the request that there should be a general grant of time, I think it is both unnecessary and undesirable. In the first place, what is the necessity for granting extension of time for all, even to those who can afford to pay? There are people, no doubt, who can afford to pay. After all, the loans taken are for long periods ranging from 10 years to 20 years and the instalments are generally small; and if a man who has taken the loan is able to pay, why should we give him a concession which he does not stand in need of? After all, the money goes to the State exchequer and it becomes available for issue to somebody else. That is my first objection.

MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*): May I know from the member whether there is any such rule restricting these loans to people of small income?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): There is no such rule.

MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*): Are not the loans being given to officers with high salari[illegible] professional men with lucrative practice?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): It is all meant for improv[illegible] They are all entitled to it. And as was suggested by t[illegible] there are people who have taken large loans and who have to [illegible] only in 12 or 15 instalments.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumanga[illegible]*): I know whether big amounts are given only to big officers in [illegible]?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : No.

The second point, as has been indicated in some of the speeches, is that the repayment would become unduly burdensome afterwards.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : No doubt, is it expected that the instalments have to be paid from the produce of the lands improved?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income-Tax Commissioner*) : It is expected so.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know whether the price of agricultural prodnce has gone down considerably?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : It has gone down. But that does not affect the Government. My argument is, a man may have other sources of income from which he can repay his instalments, and, in such a case, there is no necessity to give him extension of time.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : But in cases, where loans are advanced to persons who have no other source of income?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : The Regulation does not deny grants of loans to people with money.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : May I know whether the loans are granted on those properties which are secure?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : It is generally understood that a loan is given for a particular improvement, and from that improvement the produce of the land increases, and by selling the produce the man would be able to pay the loan in easy instalments. That is the principle underlying grant of loans. But why should we give the man who has other sources of income, who can afford to pay and who is prepared to pay the instalments, any extension of time?

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : May I know what the member has understood by the term "moratorium"?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : So far as I can understand, moratorium is a technical term which connotes the suspension under an enactment of the repayment of all debts. The word is not used here in a strictly legal sense. At the same time I can understand the intentions of the mover.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Ra*[illegible]) : Is the interest on the moratorium to be collected [illegible] that also only later on?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. La*[illegible] *Income Tax Commissioner*) : Moratorium does not mean [illegible] yment of interest.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*A*[illegible] ഒരാണ്ടത്തേക്കു ഇങ്ങിനെ സാവകാശം കൊടുത്താലും [illegible] പണമുള്ളവർ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്ന പണം വാങ്ങിക്കുന്നതിനു [illegible] ചിരോധമുണ്ടോ?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): പണം തരാൻ നിവൃത്തിയുള്ളവർക്കുടി ഇതു നിമിത്തം പണം തരാതി രിക്കുവാൻ സംഗതിയായിത്തീരുന്നതാണ്.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഒരാണ്ടത്തേക്കു എല്ലാവർക്കും ഈ സൌജന്യം കൊടുത്താലും പണമുള്ളവർ പണം കൊണ്ടുവന്നാൽ വാങ്ങിക്കുന്നതിനു തടസ്സമുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): യാതൊരു തടസ്സവുമില്ല. പക്ഷെ അങ്ങിനെ ആശം കൊണ്ടു വരികയില്ല.

So, what I have been saying was that it would be unduly burdensome to the debtor if the postponement of one instalment does not involve the postponement of future instalments also.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): Then will the Government be pleased to modify the rules as to the repayment so that the amount need not be given in one instalment?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Government are considering that point. I have not much more to say. What I say is that Government are giving extensions of time to practically all the people who apply for such extensions. They are doing much more than what the resolution contemplates. In deserving cases Government are increasing the number of instalments and extending the period. There are may cases in which the repayments which have to be made by five, eight or ten instalments have been raised to ten, fifteen, and even twenty instalments which is the maximum allowed by the Regulation. For example, in the Trivandrum Division there are fourteen cases in which the number of instalments for repayment has been increased. In the Quilon Division, there are six such cases. On the whole, there are four hundred cases in which extensions have been granted, Trivandrum 111, Quilon 200, Kottayam 83 and Devicolam 6.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Are these figures for one year?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): No, they are figures corrected up to the end of July 1933.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): What I want to know is whether these figures repre[illegible]he number of extensions that are granted during one year. [illegible]ing m[illegible]the same cases will be repeated and quoted on other occasi[illegible]

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. [illegible]nd Income Tax Commissioner*): No.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN A[illegible]*elikara*): Will not the same persons apply for extensions a[illegible]times?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): There will be a few cases of that kind.

Sir, I think there is no need for the House to press this resolution because as a matter of fact the Government are doing practically what the mover has asked, and I may say, even more than what he has asked. If this resolution is given effect to, it will affect those able to pay and those who are not able to pay. It will be an unnecessary advantage afforded to those people who are able to pay, while in the case of those who are unable to pay, it will be unduly burdensome to them.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Sir, I rise to support the resolution. As some of my friends said, it is not quite necessary that one should detail the difficulties experienced by the ryots during these hard times. What this resolution requests the Government is to give breathing time to debtors who have taken loans from the Government and from the Land Mortgage Bank. With regard to the position of the debtors at the present time and the relief which they seek for, I would request this House to look round and see the real feeling of the country. We find that the High Court Vakils' Association has passed a resolution requesting the Government to effect the necessary changes in the law to prevent the arrest of persons for debts. We find that there are a number of resolutions sent to this Assembly by various members requesting the Government either to prevent personal execution for debts or to prevent the sale of immovable property. It is a well-known fact that the Leader of the Liberal Party was attempting to introduce a Debt Conciliation Bill to help the poor persons who have taken loans in better times. Now the price of articles has gone down terribly. What this resolution seeks is to request the Government to give the poor ryots a breathing time and not to take the attitude of Shylock. That is all what is wanted by the resolution. But Government and even some of my non-official friends find many difficulties to accept it.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Does Mr. Asan want Government to act as a creditor or as an agent of the Sovereign?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I want the Government to act as the Government. (*Laughter*)

Many of the members were opposing this resolution on the ground that the relief asked for by the resolution is too small. I have never come across a demand being refused because it is too small. I can understand if it is contended that the demand is too big. Here the complaint is that the relief sought for is too small.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Does the member think that, if this resolution is passed in [illegible]rm, it will be removing the liability of even those person[illegible] to pay?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): The people who owe money to the Government h[illegible]e loans when they were in dire need even in better times.

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): May I know how the member came to the conclusion that the people were in dire need?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Because Government advance loans only to those people who are in real need.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): If this is granted, will the dire need of the people improve according to the member?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Yes, when he clears the debt which he has borrowed, he will be able to get some profit from the land he has improved and make his living.

One ground on which the learned Deputy President opposed the resolution is that the wording is inaccurate or ambiguous. For that purpose I took the trouble of getting Bouviers' Law Dictionary. In that the following meaning is given for the word moratorium. "*Moratorium*: a term designating a suspension of all or of certain legal remedies against debtors, sometimes authorised by law during times of financial distress." I do not think that a better meaning can be got for the expression.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): May I inform the member that according to that meaning my finding is correct?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): It is for the House to judge it. From the meaning certain legal remedies are suspended against the debtors.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Does it not authorise by statutory right?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Sometimes it does.

Anyhow there is an inclination on the part of some members to oppose the resolution on the ground that there is some misunderstanding about the meaning of the word used therein. It was also said that the relief asked for benefits only a small section of the people.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I inform the member that the wording of the resolution does not make much difference?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): To some it may mean much and to others it may not mean anything at all.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether it is not explicit enough?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): It may be explicit to those who may think so.

It was said here that the resolution, if carried, would benefit only a small section of the people. If it is conceded that it would benefit any section, that is the [illegible] we should allow it. I have never heard of a resolution [illegible] would benefit the whole fifty lakhs of people in the [illegible] a resolution which, if passed and brought into effect, [illegible] a section of the people and improve their economic condition.

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MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): May I know from the member whether a mere postponement of the payment of the loan will in any way be beneficial to any section of the people? Will it not increase their indebtedness?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Anyhow it will not *increase* their indebtedness.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Will it not be injurious to the other people because people who want money from Government may not get it?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): If any Government has reached that stage, I surely feel sorry for such Government.

All that I wish to state is that the position and the attitude taken by some of my friends is not correct. If we ask for remission of tax, then they will say that we are putting the administration into difficulty by reducing their revenues; if we ask for postponement, they will say that we are obstructing the machinery of Government without real benefit to the people. I do not know then for what relief we should ask.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): May I know whether, if, practically to all the people who ask for extension of time it is granted, there is any need for this resolution?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): The Land Revenue Commissioner and probably the Government may be quite sympathetic in this matter. But I do not believe that the subordinate officers and the Tahsildars are considerate to the same extent. (*Hear, hear*). It is for people who have taken small sums like Rs. 500 and Rs. 600 that this will be of practical benefit, and it is they who suffer at the hands of the subordinates of the Land Revenue Department.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Have they not got the right of appeal to the Commissioner?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I do not think it is possible for the poor people to come all the way to Trivandrum and prefer appeals.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That is not necessary. They need only put in a paper.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I have never heard of any extension being granted by merely putting a piece of paper.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamitta*): If the official member agrees that, by merely putting in a petition, extension will be given in all those places, has the memb[illegible]jection to withdraw the resolution?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN A[illegible] (*[illegible]ra*): If he issues a circular to that effect to the subordin[illegible]rtment, I have absolutely no objection.

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MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : Since some reference was made by some of the members to the Leader of the Liberal Party and his attempt to bring in a Debt Conciliation Bill, I think I also have to make a few observations. One of the points raised in the shape of a demurrer by the official member was that if all the applications for extentions are granted where is the need for carrying this resolution. The question ought to be the other way. Where is the objection then in passing such a resolution?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : Is it practicable?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Where is the impracticability so long as the department holds out the promise to extend time in all cases as a matter of departmental grace?

It is an undesirable fact that there is considerable pressure on account of the economic depression in the State. Mr. Asan referred to the resolution of the High Court Bar Association as to the condition of the debtors before Civil Courts. On a previous occasion, in this House, a motion was made to the effect that there should be a remission of 25 per cent. of the land revenue due to Government, and Government met that recommendation half-way and remitted 12½ per cent. The Government Gazette is ample evidence of the impending sales of land for arrears of land revenue. Evidence as to the need for relief to the agriculturist in Travancore is therefore ample.

Now, when this question of relief to the agriculturist is raised, it brings into play an amount of jealousy from various quarters. The persons who now ask for relief, however temporary, are persons who have already had the benefit of the agricultural and industrial loans which carry a comparatively low rate of interest, not to speak of other favourable terms, and so, naturally, those persons who have not had the benefit of these loans view it with a certain amount of jealousy.

MR M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Is it not legitimate?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : It may be quite legitimate, being natural. If these loans had been shared by a wider circle, the resolution now before the House would have gone on more smoothly; or, say, the more the Government are prepared to distribute loans to the public generally, the less would be the obstruction to the resolution before the House. But, because it was only a microscopic minority, as somebody put it, that succeeded in getting these loans, it is likely to rouse a sense of invidious distinction in those persons who have not been able to get any loans at all.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : Can there be jealou[illegible] those who expect loans in future?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PIL[illegible]*a I*) : They are snarling. Government seem to be an[illegible] the benefit of these loans to persons who have not had [illegible], screwing if necessary those

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who find themselves in low water at present. When they get back these loans and distribute them to others, the new debtors will wish for a similar resolution for extension of time.

Sir, it seems to me that the only method of eliminating this loan jealousy is to assist the debtors generally. Unfortunately, Sir, in spite of the Shakesperean motto "neither a lender nor a borrower be", Charles Lamb, himself a staunch admirer of Shakespeare, classified humanity into two classes, creditors and debtors. That state of affairs is now painfully true, and we are in sight of a position where the lenders would be few and those who want to borrow, many. Anyway, one fact is clear; there is very keen difficulty to raise money in the State. Perhaps, occasionally people forget this in the hour of need or for purposes of argument; for instance, in discussing the Statham Committee Report, it was argued by some members that, even if it comes to imposing an education cess, we must have all the reforms no matter how keen the economic depression be.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Is it not possible that the argument was advanced deliberately and not because the member who advanced it had forgotten the economic depression?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): It is quite possible; only I do not know which statement was deliberately made and which not; because at one moment the suggestion was put forward to reduce land revenue by 25 per cent. and at another time it was suggested that fees may be enhanced and education cess imposed.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Was it not with reference to collegiate education that it was stated that fees might be enhanced?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): I did not hear any such distinction being drawn: education generally was being discussed. I did not hear any specific mention of collegiate education, as though the colleges are proof against economic depression.

This resolution will, I hope, at least serve to awaken Government to a sense of what they have to do under the circumstances. When, for the purpose of relieving the agriculturist, milder measures were proposed, there was something like consternation on the part of Government in view of their inability to fulfil their obligations to the people. Certainly, such anxiety is commendable. But, is that any reason why they should ignore the hard lot of the people? Elsewhere, Governments feel anxiety for the welfare of the agriculturist; and measures are being introduced to give him relief. In the Nizam's Dominions, as I pointed out on a previous occasion, a Firman of His Exalted Highness has been issued [illegible] assistance to the agriculturists as is possible. In the C[illegible] measures, various salutary measures have been brought into [illegible] relief of the agriculturist. Sir, I myself sumitted a simil[illegible] the approval of Government; but I find that it has bee[illegible] by the authority empowered to give the necessary per[illegible] I am, however, going to repeat it, showing further reasons [illegible] ould be allowed.

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MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): According to the member's scheme, the arbitrators have to be entirely ex-Judges of the High Court?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Not necessarily; any person who has held the status of a High Court Judge may be chosen.

PRESIDENT: Any reference to a matter likely to come up for discussion is out of order.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): I submit, Sir, that it is out of order; but it was the question that made me answer.

Sir, I am in sympathy with the resolution whether the Government accept it or not. It serves as a timely reminder to Government as to the situation in the country. It is not good for the Government to pretend that there is no need for uneasiness. Having been informed of the distressing situation, the earlier they attend to it, the better. In that light, I am submitting the resolution has much to commend it, even if, on account of defects in its wording, there may be difficulty in the way of accepting it. It may be modified suitably and accepted by the House. If the Government are not going to pay attention to the problem, this sort of agitation for relief will not cease, and, in some form or other, it is sure to come up at each sitting of the House.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): I move that the question be now put.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery I*): Sir, when I moved the resolution, I was under the impression that it would have an easy course in this Assembly; but, my experience since has not been so very happy. I do not propose to deal at length with the various objections that have been raised both by the non-official and by the official members of this House. I bow to the knowledge of law of my friend, Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai. A legal flaw is quite possible in a resolution framed by one who is after all only a village pedagogue, but I can assure the House that I referred to as many dictionaries as possible before I used the word 'moratorium'. But I admit, Sir, that, if there is any ambiguity in the wording of the resolution, I am quite prepared to submit it to correction.

One objection raised was that it would give rise to a dangerous precedent if this resolution were accepted. My object in moving this resolution is to give relief to the agriculturist and the industrialist during this extraordinary situation. Any precedent would arise only if this extraordinary condition is [illegible] peat itself; and if it repeats itself, certainly relief will be [illegible]

Another objection that [illegible] the dep[illegible] that this resolution would not really relieve the debtor[illegible] rn to [illegible] here postponement would only mean accumulation of th[illegible] therefore greater difficulty later. Sir, those gentlemen who [illegible] forward that argument seem to be more kind to the debtors tha[illegible] tors themselves. As far as I

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know, every debtor seems to be anxious to get some time. If the members here want to be more interested in the debtors even against their own wish, I can only say that it is in a way out-heroding Herod.

Then follows the curious criticism that the resolution seeks to give relief only to a few. Another criticism was that a general moratorium would have been more advantageous and should have been proposed. I admit the latter suggestion; but, when even the present modest demand of mine is not being viewed with favour, I am sure, the other proposal for a general moratorium is sure to be rejected.

One strong argument that was advanced was that extensions might be granted in deserving cases. I must totally reject that proposal; because that undermines the very foundation of my resolution. I stand on the basis that the country as a whole is now passing through extraordinary times and that there is not one individual who does not deserve sympathy, who does not need relief at the hands of Government. If individual cases are to be chosen for this concession, that would mean that the situation does not deserve consideration by Government. Therefore, I cannot accept that proposal at all. The official member has told us that Government are doing practically everything in their power and are actually granting extension of time to everybody asking for it. That is why I submit, Sir, that my resolution is just in time. The statement by Government is a confession that every one of these debtors needs extension. If Government are actually granting extension of time in every case, I ask, why not make it a general rule as prayed for in my resolution? Why not legalise the concession?

With these words, I press the resolution.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): The mover has practically given up his case when he said that Government are granting extensions practically to everybody applying for it.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery* I): I was simply controverting the argument advanced by the Government. I did not accept that statement; I said that, if the statement by Government was true, there could not be any harm in accepting the resolution.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That is exactly my position. If that statement is true, it is clear that the resolution is absolutely unnecessary. Because, those who are not able to repay ask for extension, and they all do get it if their inability to pay is a fact. If anybody does not apply, it presupposes that he is able to pay.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN (*Chirayinkeezhu*): Are the Government keen only about the ap[illegible]

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): It is a free country, and every[illegible] apply.

It does a disservice to tho[illegible] not want to be in the debt of the Government. They are [illegible]y and they have got money to pay.

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MR. K. R. ELENKTAH (*Kalkulam* I): If the resolution is accepted, will it stand in the way of anybody who is prepared to pay back the loan?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): No, it will not. But it gives a premium to default which is both unnecessary and undesirable. Further there are certain persons who are able to pay but who are incorrigible and who deliberately avoid payment. There are cases of persons defaulting instalment after instalment and yet Government mercifully give them extensions of time and still they would not pay and the only course in such cases is for Government to resort to compulsory recovery.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): If Government found them incorrigible, why did they not proceed against them earlier instead of granting them extensions?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenu and Income Tax Commisisoner*): Government have been showing mercy. But if the resolution is accepted, even those persons who ought to be proceeded against will escape the just penalty for their defaults.

Then again, there are persons who have misspent their loans. Under the rules, loans are usually given in two instalments. The first instalment is used generally for some purpose other than the one for which it was obtained. Government in such a case have got the summary power of recovering that money. But if a moratorium is granted, such persons will escape as the Government cannot proceed against them as they would be free from the liability of repaying the loan immediately. There should not be any way of escape for these people.

I believe, Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai said that this resolution is to impress on Government that the time has arrived to look into the economic distress of the people more seriously. Sir, the Government are already aware of it. The very fact that certain measures such, as the tax remission, have been taken by Government for affordin grelief to the agriculturists shows that.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): May I know from the member why that remission was not extended to garden land owners?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That is another matter which does not arise in this connection.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Are the Government aware of the existence of a number of debtors in Civil Courts and that certain creditors are exploiting the inability of the debtors to pay?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That is a wider question [illegible] competent to deal with it at present. Sir, the Government [illegible] very sympathetic in this matter. They need not [illegible] there is economic distress in the country.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): May I ask whether that sympathy [illegible] only to paddy land owners and not to garden land [illegible]?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): It extends to all those who are in need of sympathy.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): With regard to land tax remission, is it not confined only to paddy land owners?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Sir, I shall not go into that question now.

Another proof of the sympathy of Government which goes beyond the sympathy of the mover himself is the fact that we are increasing the number of instalments, a thing which is not contemplated by the rules.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Is it not allowed by the rules?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I think not.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Then how are the Government going against the rules?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) It is not going *against* the rules but it is going *beyond* the rules.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Is there no provision in the rules for increasing the number of instalments and reducing the amount of the instalment?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Not without the special sanction of Government. That is not normally done. What I say is that we are doing much more than what the member himself is demanding.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Is it the case with regard to the loans from the Land Mortgage Bank and the industrial loans?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Industrial loans are in the very same position as the agricultural loans. In the case of these loans, every sympathy is shown to those who are unable to pay. In regard to the loan from the Land Mortgage Bank there is no difficulty. They give long term loans spreading over a period of twenty or more years, and this means easy instalments. Besides, so far as the Land Mortgage Bank is concerned, the question does not arise now as the loans have only very recently been issued.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): May I know whether Government are prepared to consider the whole question of economic depression and afford relief by an adequate legislative enactment, comprehensive of all the troubles?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That is too large a proposal. Even other Governments with a host of experts have not been able to [illegible] comprehensive measure to deal with the economic depres[illegible] not think that our Government will be able to introduc[illegible]ve measure to remedy ll our economic difficulties.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLA[illegible]*ha I*): All the phases of the economic depression?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): No measure which any Government can bring can comprise all these.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Why not make an attempt at least

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Are Government granting extension of time because they find that even after taking coercive steps it is difficult for the debtors to pay?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): It is not because Government are finding it difficult to recover these loans by having recourse to coercive steps. No, the real motive of Government in granting extension is that the man who suffers must be helped and not that they cannot get their money by resorting to coercive steps.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Is it on account of the genuine desire on the part of Government to help the needy and deserving that such a course has been adopted?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Exactly so. In the circumstances, I would request the mover to withdraw his resolution.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): I request the mover not to press his motion in view of the second speech of the Government member.

PRESIDENT: I shall now put the resolution to the vote of the House. The resolution is:

> "This Assembly recommends to the Government that a one-year moratorium be granted to all agricultural and industrial loans and all loans issued from the Land Mortgage Bank."

The resolution was put to vote and declared lost.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon* I): I demand a poll.

A poll was taken with the following results:

AYES—24

1	Mr.	N. Abdur Rahiman Sahib	14	Mr.	K. Madhavan
2	,,	P. Chidambaram Pillai	15	,,	M. N. Nair
3	,,	A. S. Damodaran Asan	16	,,	P. K. Narayana Pillai
4	,,	K. R. Elenkath	17	,,	Edavanatt S. Padmanabha Menon
5	,,	S. J Nair	18	Mr.	Kainikkara M. Padmanabha Pillai
6	,,	T. S. Jayantan Nambootiri	19	,,	Changanachery K. Paramesvaran Pillai
7	,,	N. John Joseph	20	,,	V. Ramakrishna Panickar
8	,,	T. T. Kesavan Sastri		,,	R. Raman Pillai
9	,,	K. M. Krishnan		,,	A. Thanu Pillai
10	,,	Pottayil S. Krishna Panick[illegible]		,,	N. E. Varughese
11	,,	E. V. Krishna Pill[illegible]		,,	V. K. Velappan Nair
12	,,	T. Krishna Pillai			
13	,,	K. Kunjukrishna [illegible]			

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NOES—35

1	Mr. K. C. Abraham	18	Mr P. C. Narayanan Bhattatiripad
2	,, T. K. Alexander	19	,, B. Narayana Pillai
3	,, V. T. Chacko	20	,, Pacode A. Narayana Pillai
4	,, C. V. Chandrasekharan	21	Srimati T. Narayani Amma
5	,, S. Chattanatha Karayalar	22	Mr. G. Nilakantan
6	,, A. Easwara Pillai (Kalkulam II)	23	,, R. Nilakanta Pillai
7	,, Antony George	24	,, K. Padmanabhan
8	,, K. George	25	,, N. K. Padmanabha Pillai
9	Miss Hepzibah Gnanasikamony	26	,, Kayalam Parameswaran Pillai
10	Mr. M. Mahomed Haneef	27	,, T P. Ramasubba Aiyar
11	,, L. H. Jacob	28	,, R. Sambasiva Aiyar
12	,, K. C. Karunakaran	29	,, K. Sankaran
13	,, K. P. Krishna Menon	30	,, R. Sivasubrahmanya Nadar
14	Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai	31	,, M. Sivatanu Pillai
15	Mr. E. K. Kunjuraman	32	,, R. M. Statham
16	,, K. M. Kuriakose	33	,, T. C. Thommen
17	,, K. Mahomed	34	,, T. P. Velayudhan Pillai
		35	,, T. K. Velu Pillai

NEUTRALS—5

1	Mr. A. Easwara Pillai (Kottarakara)	3	Mr. M. K. Madhavan Pillai
2	,, N. K. Krishna Pillai	4	,, K. A. Narayana Pillai
		5	,, P. K. Thomas

The resolution was declared lost.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Sir, the House has got some sort of information that at the next meeting we shall miss you as the President of this Assembly. All partings, generally speaking, are painful. Especially is this so in your case, since your connection with this Assembly, though it goes to the very formation of it, has been all too short. The credit for having remodelled the representative institutions of the State and for the re-formation of the Legislature on a bicameral basis, goes to you in no small measure. (*Hear, hear.*) Demands of relevancy compel me to confine my observations on this occasion to your connection with this House alone; and in regard to that I have very great pleasure to give voice to our happy retrospect that your conduct as the President of this Assembly has invariably been considerate, cordial and courteous towards us. (*Hear, hear.*) Therefore on this occasion, Sir, we have very great pleasure in bidding you a hearty and regardful farewell and also in expressing our wish that in new centres of [illegible]re activity you may meet with success, prosperity and happi[illegible]*ear.*) We also take occasion to refer, with grateful recolle[illegible]t that the members of this Assembly have enjoyed the [illegible]ity of Mrs. Austin (*Hear, hear.*) I need hardly assure [illegible]hall cherish the memory of our happy relations for man[illegible]rs to come. With these few words, I have great pleasure [illegible]g you farewell and wishing you success in your future career.

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MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): Sir, on behalf of the members of my party, I heartily associate myself with the sentiments just now expressed by my friend Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai. I cannot speak with any authority as to how you guided the deliberations of the Assembly on former occasions; but I know how you guided the deliberations of this, the newly constituted Assembly, during the Budget Session. And, I can assure you, Sir, that it is our firm conviction that you did it with considerable ability, tact, patience and unfailing-courtesy. We are certainly sorry that you are leaving us; but, we hope that after reverting to your permanent place, you will be raised to such positions of trust and responsibility in the British Indian service as you justly deserve.

I join my friend Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai in wishing you and Mrs. Austin godspeed.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Sir, this is the second session of the newly formed Legislative Assembly, when we have the privilege of sitting in session presided over by you. We carry away with us very happy recollections of our association with you as the distinguished President of this House. The fact that you were responsible, to a very great extent, for and that you were associated with, the introduction of the new reforms will ever remain a very important fact in the annals of this House. Sir, I have very great pleasure in endorsing the views of my friends, Messrs P. K. Narayana Pillai and Changanachery Paramesvaran Pillai who expressed the good wishes of their respective parties. On behalf of the Independent Party of this House, I offer you our heart-felt and sincere thanks. And, we wish you long life and a very distinguished career of usefulness in whatever sphere of life you happen to be.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): സർ, ഈ അവസരത്തിൽ രണ്ടു് വാക്കു പറയുന്നതിനു് എനിക്കും അനുവാദം തരണം.

ഈ സഭയിലെ അഫിഷ്യൽ ഭാഷ ഇംഗ്ലീഷു് ആണെങ്കിലും മലയാളത്തിൽ സംസാരിക്കുന്ന ഞാനുൾപ്പെട്ട സഭാംഗങ്ങളോടു് പ്രത്യേകം താങ്കൾ കാണിച്ചു വന്നിരുന്നതായ ക്ഷമാശീലം, ആദരവു്, സമഭാവന, എന്നീ സൽഗുണങ്ങൾക്കു വേണ്ടി ഞാൻ താങ്കളെ വളരെ അഭിനന്ദിച്ചു കൊള്ളുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ സംസാരിച്ച മറ്റു സഭാംഗങ്ങളോടു ഒപ്പം ഞാനും താങ്കൾക്കു സർവവിധ വിജയങ്ങളും ആശംസിച്ചു കൊള്ളുന്നു. അങ്ങിനെ സംഭവിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുമാറാകട്ടെ.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI (*Nominated*): സർ, പരിശുദ്ധിച്ച ശ്രീമൂലം അസംബ്ലിയുടെ രണ്ടു് [illegible] വളരെ മംഗളകരമായിത്തന്നെ പര്യവസാനിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു [illegible] എല്ലാം സ്നേഹത്തോടും സുസ്മേരവദനത്തോടും [illegible] ഭംഗിയായി അസംബ്ലിയെ നയിച്ച പ്രസിഡൻറിന്റെ പേർ [illegible] മാത്രം നന്ദിപ്രകടിപ്പിച്ചാലും മതിയാകുകയില്ല. എന്നാൽ [illegible] പരിതാപമാണു് എനിക്കു

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ന്നതു്. ഈ അസംബ്ലിയിലെ ഒരു മെമ്പർ എന്ന നിലയിലും ഈ രാജ്യത്തിലെ പാവപ്പെട്ട ജനങ്ങളുടെ ഒരു പ്രതിനിധി എന്ന നിലയിലും പ്രസിഡൻറിൻെറ നേരെ എൻെറ നിസ്സീമമായ സ്നേഹബഹുമാനാദരങ്ങളെ പ്രകടിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടു അങ്ങയ്ക്കു സുദീർഘമായ ആയുരാരോഗ്യാദികളാശിച്ചു ഭാവുകം ആശംസിച്ചു കൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. M. MAHOMED HANEEF (*Nominated*) : Sir, I have very great pleasure to thank you and to convey to you the heart-felt gratitude of the Moslem community for all that you have done to that community during your short regime in Travancore. You have always been very sympathetic towards the community to which I belong. So, on behalf of my community and on my own behalf, I pray that God Almighty may bestow upon you long life and prosperity.

MISS HEBZIBAH GNANASIKHAMANI (*Nominated*) : On behalf of my sister Srimati Narayani Amma and on my own behalf, I wish you a very sad yet inevitable farewell. During our experience in this Assembly, both in the first session and now, you have been, I can assure you, Sir, most kind to us. (*Hear, hear.*) Our claims were always considered by you, Sir, as those of the weak sex. You have been very considerate, very noble, very helpful. We are very grateful to you for all that you have done for us.

I wish to add a few words about Mrs. Austin. Kindly convey our farewell and our hearty good wishes to her for all that she has done for us during these years.

Once again, Sir, on behalf of the women of Travancore, on behalf of my sister Srimati Narayani Amma and on my own behalf, I wish you all success in your future life. May God give you and Mrs. Austin all happiness, all success.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA (*Nominated*) : I heartily endorse the sentiments expressed by my sister Miss Gnanasikhamani ; and I wish you and Mrs. Austin godspeed.

PRESIDENT : Members of the Assembly, I came down especially this afternoon to bid you good-bye as a body. I am very glad that I have not yet to say good-bye to you individually : and I am quite sure that when that time comes, it will not be good-bye for ever, because both my wife and myself will ever keep the friendships that we have made in Travancore. I am very grateful to you for the kind things you said about my presidentship. I am very proud indeed to have been President of this Assembly and of the Travancore Legislature ; and, if my task as President has been easy, it is because you have been always courteous and considerate to me. You have now got great powers and with them great responsibilities; and it is my be[illegible]hope that you will use them to the best advantage of the S[illegible]is Highness the Maha Raja.

Ladies and gentlemen, C[illegible]again very much.

It is now my duty to adj[illegible]ion *sine die*.

The Assembly adjourned [illegible] P.M.

K. MADHAVA KURUP,
Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly.

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